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THE AUSTRALASIAN
Journal of Pharmacy

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Prescription Pricing.

BY R. L. MORLAND.

Paper read before the American Pharmaceutical Association.

For generations it has been the custom of druggists to make arbitrary charges for prescriptions according to the quantity dispensed, almost without regard to the cost of the materials employed. Owing to modern conditions, this haphazard method of doing business is one of the chief causes of complaint about the prescription department. More than ever, at the present time, on account of the unsettled state of the drug and chemical markets, does it behove the pharmacist to abandon the old method of pricing in what is the most important and should be the most remunerative department in his store. Prescriptions to yield the returns they should, must be priced on a common sense basis, namely, the cost of materials and container, plus a reasonable profit, to which should be added a fee for compounding based on time required for such work. A dentist should not fill a tooth for the amount of profit he could make on the gold filling, nor a carpenter build a house for the profit on the material. The question of the rate per hour to charge for this would probably be viewed differently according to the locality, and it may be somewhat difficult to fix an arbitrary scale of fees applicable to any and every store, but it has been suggested that 4/- to 6/- per hour would be a fair basis upon which to compute, taking into consideration the individual overhead expense which is always heavy in drug stores in proportion to the volume of business done. It is hardly consistent to charge the same price for a mixture containing, say, one grain

of strychnine in four ounces of Elixir as for a four-ounce mixture containing, among other ingredients, four drams of Sodium Salicylate from Wintergreen.

To get the proper prices for prescrpitions, however, the pharmacist must give strict attention to several things. In the first place, the drugs and chemicals must be of the highest quality in every particular without regard to cost. His work must be done with scrupulous care, and everything that leaves his hands must be correct in every detail. Second quality of some goods may be necessary for retail purposes, but should never be considered in the prescription room. All solutions should be strained. Capsules should be thoroughly clean, pills round and even size, powders accurately divided and neatly folded, eye drops and all solutions for applications to the mucous membranes should be sterilised where the substances used will permit of it, or, if not, the distilled water should be sterilised. Ointments should be smooth and free from grit.

Great care should be taken with the utensils used at the prescription counter. It is very essential that the graduates, mortars, funnels, etc., should be kept as clean as the cup from which you drink your coffee. All prescriptions should be sent out in a neat and attractive manner. The customer, for the most part, can only judge your work by its external appearance. Therefore, your bottles, corks, labels, and all other packages should be of the best quality. McEwan says in "The Art of Dispensing," "He who economises on his drugs is a rogue, but he who economises on his bottles, corks, and pill boxes is a fool." A mixture put in a cheap bottle with a short, brittle cork, label carelessly attached, and clumsily wrapped, is not liable to impress the customer with the quality of your drugs nor your skill in compounding. Use high grade bottles, extra long corks of the best quality obtainable, which should fit the bottle well and should be overlarge rather than undersized. Labels should be neat, with the most prominent part given to the directions, which should be typewritten or clearly written in a legible hand. Distinctive bottles should be used for poisonous substances for external use, dropper bottles for eye drops and medicines given in drop doses. Parchment paper is preferable for powders, while pills, tablets, and capsules are much better dispensed in bottles. Avoid the use of twine. Sealing wax or gummed tape makes a much neater package. The wrapping paper should be of good quality and of different colour from that in general use.

If we keep these facts in mind, we should not have much trouble in getting at least a satisfactory remuneration for our work. The pharmacist should take sufficient pride in his dispensing so that his calling may be raised from an art to the dignity of a profession. In no other way have we a right to ask the public to pay us professional rates for our services. If we follow the old methods, we are simply purveyors of medicines and must expect but little more for our time and experience than the grocer or the hardware man receive for theirs. The skill required to become an efficient compounder can only be acquired by long study and experience. It is properly a profession although commonly called an art. Let us see to it that we raise it to the dignity of the former by care and accuracy in our work and professional conduct in our affairs and the result cannot be otherwise than elevating. Pharmacy will therefore take its place where it rightly belongs, beside the profession of medicine.

American Notes.

Is Price-Fixing Legal?

A big price-maintenance suit is about to open. Colgate and Co., soap and toilet article manufacturers, have been indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on a technical charge of refusing to sell their products to dealers who do not observe the fixed prices. Colgate's have adopted a price maintenance policy for over forty years. They intend to carry this case to the highest court. Upon the final issue depends whether the price-protection system will be legalised or otherwise.

Noted Pharmacist Dead.

One of the leading pharmacists of the United States, Dr. Joseph P. Remington, Dean of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and a pharmacist of international reputation, died on January 1st, 1918, after an illness of about five months. Professor Remington was a member of the Revision Committee of the United States Pharmacopoeia since 1880. He was President of the first International Pharmaceutical Congress held in 1898, and was also the author of Remington's "Practice of Pharmacy" and a number of other standard pharmaceutical text books.

Restrictive Legislation.

Pharmacists are being hampered and hedged about, says the *Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal*, by a multiplicity of laws and regulations, wise and otherwise, until it is becoming almost a necessity to secure a lawyer's opinion before functioning in his capacity as a qualified caterer to the remedial needs of the public.

Venereal Diseases Laws Questioned.

Messrs. E. Fougera and Co. are testing in the New York courts the validity of an Act passed last year making it a misdemeanour to advertise the cure of venereal diseases. Their plaint is that the Act is unconstitutional. Pharmacists are watching the case with interest, as the general opinion is that the Act was engineered by interested parties, who were anxious to secure a monopoly of treatment.

New Names Required for German Drugs.

Licenses to use German-owned patents in the United States require the manufacturers to give a new name to the drugs or articles they produce, so that after the war German producers may not reap the benefits of the trade which may have been built up.

Russian News.

Pharmaceutical Troubles in Russia.

Exclusive Correspondence of *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

PETROGRAD, Dec. 25, 1917.

The threatened strike of the pharmacists' assistants materialised in due course as had been anticipated, and, naturally enough, it has put the general public to a great deal of very serious inconvenience; and, of course, has occupied the minds of the authorities somewhat directly. It was on 31st September, n.s., that the Union of Pharmacists' Assistants applied to the Union of Pharmacists, asking for an increase in their wages, the rate of which had been fixed on 8th May preceding. As the principals refused to satisfy the demands of the assistants, a conciliation committee was formed, including the President of the Ministry of Trade and the Assistant Minister of the Interior, V. M. Bogutzky, as chairman.

The principals said that they refused the request for increased pay until the point in favour of collective negotiation had been suppressed. This provision required the engagement of assistants to be governed by the Labour Exchange; but the dismissal of assistants could only take place through an arbitral body. As the assistants would not agree to the foregoing, the combined sitting was broken up.

A committee chosen by the Town Council made a second attempt to bring both of the parties together on a friendly basis, and obviate a strike. This committee proposed to allow representatives of the town along with the Labour Exchange to control the engagement of assistants. This proposal was declined by the proprietors. On Tuesday, 16th October, the strike began in Petrograd.

It may be mentioned in respect to this unhappy occurrence that pharmacists' assistants asked for a fresh valuation of their labour, notwithstanding that they had benefited materially in the preceding May, as stated above, the advance at that time having amounted to 200-250 per cent. on their former wages, whilst their working day was reduced from 8 hours to 6 hours. The fresh demands of the assistants included collective bargaining for 50-100 per cent. advance.

The proprietors of the pharmacies pleaded on their side that their refusal was not altogether selfish, for the new burden would fall more on the invalid consumers than on any other interested factor in the dispute. They insisted again on a revival of the collective bargaining basis referred to, holding, as they said, that a half-year's experience in the application of this principle had clearly demonstrated its complete unsatisfactoriness, particularly considering the rapid decline in the work done and the accuracy thereof also. It is somewhat remarkable that in the conferences that took place there were present Messrs. Goldstein, Lipetzky, and Rozenfeld, on the one side, and Alupha, Kuperman and Paperna on the other, which latter, as a matter of fact, do not serve in the pharmacies and are really representatives of an American firm.

It was precisely on 27th September, o.s. (that is, 10th October, n.s.), that the strike was declared. The proprietors determined on pharmacies remaining open to be served by the proprietors themselves in certain districts. At the door of each pharmacy the public was informed that they would find a statement showing to which pharmacy of the district they should apply for medical assistance, and the Union of Pharmacists asked medical men and the public, in the interest of invalids, to use these particular pharmacies only for obtaining absolutely necessary medicines.

The strike proceeded with considerable stubbornness, and it must be conceded that it was pretty general, in respect to the hands engaged in the pharmacies; for it involved not only competent dispensers, but all employees in the shops, beginning with those who swept or washed the floors and the messengers. Nevertheless, the principals maintained their positions stubbornly, and showed no sign of concession. In the first days of the strike the Union of Pharmacists stated that all measures would be taken so that the citizens should not suffer from the strike. About mid-December there were about fifty pharmacies open, of which twenty-six belonged to the Union of Pharmacists, and the remainder kept open by the principals themselves. A rule, however, had been established, and strictly adhered to, that none but medicines of absolute necessity should be sold. The Minister of the Interior, along with the Minister of Labour, endeavoured to form a committee, consisting of both sides, the duty of which would be to bring the strike as early as possible to a close.

The effect of the strike has been to make the population very anxious, as many of the pharmacists decline to sell almost anything at all; and, as to those that are served by the owners, the public has great difficulty in entering, as the picket does all it can to prevent the buyer and seller coming together. The press has been requested to advise the public to pay no attention to the statements of the pickets; but, notwithstanding this, the position remains what one might call "permanently critical."

It is hardly necessary to comment on the bare statement of current fact to enable one to realise the seriousness of the strike, but, on the other hand, the condition into which Petrograd social life has fallen makes it possible that even worse may befall the pharmacies of the town. There is little to be added until the trouble ceases; but whether it will terminate on its own initiative or will be merged into a settlement of the great upheaval that now besets the capital can only be left for time to make clear.

With regard to the situation on the market for pharmaceutical products, this, too, is greatly influenced—in fact, almost completely—by the troubled condition into which the country has fallen; and it appears as though to give the prices of the day would be to mislead the reader, for nearly every market report begins with the comment that there are no fixed prices; there are only prices from day to day, if even as long enduring as that. The markets, of course, are strong and many of the goods in the pharma-

ceutical list are not only scarce, but are not procurable at all. It is chaos everywhere, out of which order will be evolved; but no date can be approximately stated for such a happy denouement.

Venereal Diseases.

Discussion in Parliament.

In the Victorian Legislative Assembly on March 6, during the debate on Supply, Mr. Elmslie, Leader of the Opposition, said that, when looking through the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* of January 21, 1918, page 3, he noticed a reference to a modern treatment of gonorrhoea, which he thought would be well worth making more public than it had been made by being published in the Journal referred to. The extract he wished to make was as follows:—

THE MODERN TREATMENT OF GONORRHOEA.

Dr. L. E. Ellis recently read an interesting paper on the above subject before the New South Wales Branch of the British Medical Association. He refers to precautionary methods as being uncertain. One certain preventive measure is to wash out the urethra with a pint of 1 in 2000 solution of potassium permanganata. Even if this treatment is not adopted until the morning following coitus gonorrhœa cannot be developed. Dr. Ellis quotes authorities to show that if this method of prevention were universally adopted gonorrhœa would cease to exist. He disapproves of compulsory notification, as it "only leads to concealment of a disease in which early treatment is essential."

Mr. Elmslie said that Dr. Ellis gave other prescriptions that would be equally effective under certain conditions, and stated that if the prescriptions referred to were used, gonorrhœa would disappear. Something must be done to wipe this scourge out. Prevention was better than cure. He asked the Minister of Health to issue a leaflet dealing with the matter. Education was a powerful factor, and it would be a crime to neglect it.

Mr. McLeod spoke on the subject at some length, and stated that if the remedy mentioned by Mr. Elmslie was effective they should urge the promulgation of it. Victoria had done what other countries had been frightened to do by making it compulsory for cases to be reported. A stop had been put to quackery by compelling patients to go to medical men.

Mr. Warde said that it was no use dodging the fact that medical men generally had no experience in this disease worth speaking of. With the exception of a few men, who were experts, doctors generally had not sufficient knowledge to cope with venereal disease. He was told that many doctors went to Langwarrin to receive instruction concerning the treatment there.

After further discussion regarding the establishment of night clinics, the vote for the Health Department was agreed to.

New Legislation.

Poisons Act 1915.

REGULATIONS.

At the Executive Council Chamber, Melbourne, the twenty-sixth day of February, 1918.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Governor of Victoria.

Mr. Bowser	Mr. McWhae
Mr. Downward	Mr. Angus
Mr. Clarke	

UNDER the powers in that behalf conferred by the *Poisons Act* 1915, His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria, by and with the advice of the Executive Council thereof, on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, doth make the Regulations following (that is to say):—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Poisons Regulations 1918, and shall be read and construed as one with the Poisons Regulations 1917 (hereinafter called the Principal Regulations).

2. After clause 13 of the Principal Regulations the following new clause is inserted:—

13A. In the case of liquid disinfectants consisting of or containing poison such disinfectants may be sold or offered for sale in round tins securely sealed and having a rounded pyramid-shaped or domed top provided that above the principal label on such tins or cans the words "Not to be taken" are embossed or are painted or branded in red letters of not less than twelve points face measurement bold sans-serif capital type and that down the sides of such tins or cans the word "Poison" is painted or branded or embossed in two places in red letters of not less than thirty points face measurement bold sans-serif capital type.

3. After sub-clause (*b*) of clause 23 of the Principal Regulations, the following new subclause is inserted, which may be cited as subclause (*c*) of that clause:—

(*c*) Notwithstanding anything contained in Regulation 23 (*b*) if the substance be sold in liquid form it may be delivered in round tins or cans securely sealed and having a rounded pyramid-shaped or domed top provided that above the principal label the words "Not to be taken" are embossed or are painted or branded in red letters of not less than twleve points face measurement bold sans-serif capital type and that down the sides of such tins or cans the word "Poisonous" is painted or branded or embossed in two places in red letters of not less than thirty points face measurement bold sans-serif capital type.

And the Honorable John Bowser, His Majesty's Chief Secretary for the State of Victoria, shall give the necessary direction herein accordingly.

F. W. MABBOTT,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

THE AUSTRALASIAN
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(ESTABLISHED 1886.)

with which is incorporated the
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Founded 1878.

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Editorial.

Heckling the P.A.T.A.

The principles upon which price-maintenance rests have become so generally accepted by manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, both in Great Britain and Australia, as well as in South Africa, Canada and the United States, that they are incapable of being attacked on economic grounds. It is only when these principles are used to bolster up a monopoly, to fleece the public by compelling retailers to sell at an exorbitant rate of profit, or to put into operation boycotting powers which are harsh and unjustified in their incidence, that the system becomes suspect so far as the public welfare is concerned.

Because a certain group of traders has introduced a system of boycott which the Federal Government regards as subversive to the best interests of the community, it has caused to be gazetted under the War Precautions Act a series of regulations—not directed against this particular group alone, but encompassing in their scope all price-fixing agreements which have as their basis the shutting off of supplies to any retailer who fails to observe the fixed selling rates.

Under this drag-net system the P.A.T.A. is directly affected. At present the regulation only touches those infants' and invalids' foods which are included in the Protected List; but no one can say that some further extension may not be made at any moment. That steps will be taken to place the true position before the Government goes without saying, as it would be a serious matter indeed to those who with patience and perseverance have laboriously built up a system which, although at first regarded with suspicion, is now generally recognised as being fair and beneficent in its operation.

To see the fruits of their labour destroyed without taking some action to preserve them certainly will not be viewed with equanimity by those who have appreciated the boon which fair trading conditions have ensured. The position is a perfectly clear one. Every manufacturer has a moral and legal right to protect his goodwill and his good name. If his goods are dragged in the dust by the cut-rate dealer their value is thereby depreciated. Other retailers refuse to handle them, the trade becomes apathetic, sales fall off, and the manufacturer's goodwill is, in consequence, seriously prejudiced.

From the retailer's point of view, every trader has a right to demand a fair rate of profit. The workman is protected by law from the evils of unrestricted competition in the wage market, and the retailer, on the same principle, is not unreasonable if he claims to be protected from the evils of unrestricted competition in respect to the goods which he handles. And provided that the rate of profit is fair and reasonable, no one can say that the community

suffers thereby. Only those who are familiar with the evils of price-cutting as they existed prior to the P.A.T.A. movement can understand the demoralising effects they had upon the mercantile community. It was a realisation of these evils that forced business men to join together to endeavour to minimise them. The result was the formation of the P.A.T.A. of Great Britain, followed later by similar organisations in Australia and other parts of the world.

The P.A.T.A. is not a secret body; it has no "unwrittenagreements" or so-called "honourable understandings"; its price lists are scattered broadcast and are open to the inspection of all who care to apply for them; the various rates of profit of manufacturer, wholesaler, and retailer are clearly set out; exorbitant profits are discouraged by the non-acceptance of lines for which unreasonable prices are asked; and it does not fix prices itself, but simply acts as a medium for manufacturers as a body to unitedly place before retailers individually the prices agreed upon.

Its primary duty is to secure an observance of these prices. If price-cutting takes place it simply reports the matter to the manufacturer, who, exercising his legitimate right, refuses to supply the cutter with any more of his goods. It does not shut the cutter off from obtaining the raw materials necessary to enable him to make similar commodities if he desires to do so. Where a miller refuses to supply flour to a baker who cuts the price of bread a totally different position is created. The baker is at once deprived of his means of carrying on business, but under the P.A.T.A. system the retailer only suffers to the extent that he is debarred from obtaining supplies of those *manufactured* articles which appear on the protected list. The difference in the two cases is obvious.

Any reversion to the conditions operating prior to the institution of the anti-cutting movement should be strenuously opposed. We feel sure that a good case can be put before the Federal Price Fixing authorities, and that some means will be found to overcome the difficulties which are now perplexing those interested in the P.A.T.A. movement.

The Month.

Withdrawal of Pharmacy Board Grant.

It will be learnt with feelings of surprise and concern that the Victorian Government has notified the Pharmacy Board of that State that the annual grant of £200 has been withdrawn. For over 30 years the Board has been in receipt of a grant from the Government in aid of the administration of the Poisons Act. The preamble of this Act specifically states that it was passed "for the safety of the public," and as a public measure the Board has for the best part of half a century administered it. It is not necessary to recapitulate in these pages the valuable work which the members of the Pharmacy Board have accomplished during the 42 years the Board has been in existence. Not only have they given their time and services gratuitously in connection with the administrative work of the Board; but as honorary examiners in the Final Examination they have rendered services to the State, which, if paid for on a professional basis, would entail an annual expenditure of something like £150. By the withdrawal of the grant, the Board is placed in a very awkward position, as under existing legislation it is impossible for it to increase its revenue in order to make up the deficiency. Neither can expenditure be reduced without seriously impairing the Board's sphere of usefulness. Representations have been made to the Honorable the Treasurer (Mr. McPherson) on the subject, and we trust that the report placed before him outlining the valuable work which the Board is doing in the public interest will impress him sufficiently to bring about a reconsideration of his previous decision.

An Efficient News Service.

In this issue of the *Journal* are published verbatim reports of the annual meetings of the Pharmaceutical Society and the P.A.T.A. of Victoria, in addition to a large amount of other useful information of practical interest to pharmacists. Our readers will appreciate the fact that one of the prime objects of a journal owned and controlled by pharmacists themselves is to supply not only an efficient news service covering the latest developments in pharmacy and its allied branches, but to ensure that the information published is accurate and up-to-date. To do this satisfactorily, means a large expenditure of time and energy. The Council of the So-

ciety, however, feels that it is under an obligation to the members to place before them month by month the fullest possible information relating to matters affecting their welfare. Members—particularly in the country districts—who are not able to attend the various meetings, possess in the *Journal* a valuable medium for making themselves *au fait* with the work of the various organisations throughout the Commonwealth. Concisely and connectedly each month the transactions of the different Boards, Societies and Associations are faithfully recorded in these pages, and the busy pharmacist is able to glean in a very short space of time a connected idea of the nature of the work which is being undertaken by these organisations on his behalf. No better evidence of the success which has attended the efforts of the Council in extending and perfecting this policy could be forthcoming than the increase in the circulation of the *Journal* and the numerous letters of appreciation received from pharmacists in all parts of the Commonwealth. In these days of business organisation no profession or trade can afford to overlook the value of an official organ devoted to its interests and owned and controlled by its members. The Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia owes much of its progress and prestige to the fact that over 60 years ago its founders decided to publish an official journal. Circumstances led to the cessation of that publication for a time; but the records show that since 1878 the Society has interruptedly—except for a short period when the paper was conducted by its secretary—carried on an official organ of its own, first as *The Australasian Chemist and Druggist* (1878-1885), and since that date as *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*. We merely mention these facts to show that the present policy of the Society is not only in keeping with the traditions of the past, but is also in accord with the most modern ideas of successful organisation.

Pharmacists and the Law.

The unpleasant duty has been cast upon the Pharmacy Boards of New South Wales and Victoria during the past two or three months of having to take action against several pharmacists who, by their disregard of the provisions of the Poisons and Pharmacy Acts, have brought themselves within the pale of the law. Fortunately such cases are few and far between. Collectively pharmacists are notably careful in their compliance with the requirements of the many Acts affecting them. Frequently they go further than the actual legal requirements by exercising discretion in regard to certain transactions which, although strictly within the law, come within the domain where moral considerations might be said to prevail. In other instances offences have occurred which have been trivial or clearly unintentional and unpremeditated. In these cases the Board, exercising its discretionary powers, has properly administered a warning, without taking the offenders to court. But where the offences are flagrant the duty of the Board is plain. It has a public duty to carry out and it cannot look with lenient eyes upon an offending pharmacist and at the same time come down with a heavy hand on an unqualified trader. Pharmacists are educated men, and they are expected to know the law. If they wilfully disregard the law they cannot claim special treatment. Their responsibilities and obligations admittedly are onerous. But so long as these requirements are on the Statute Book they have to be observed, and any departure from a strictly impartial attitude towards offenders would only bring upon the Board ridicule and distrust.

Answers to Correspondents

G.F.C.—*The Digest of the British Pharmacopœia* 1914 (Plowman and Bailey) is out of print.

A.G.—Emmenagogue pills containing Ergot or Savin must be treated as a poison in the first part of the Schedule in Victoria.

C.T.—In New South Wales all dispensing in private hospitals must be done by qualified pharmacists.

F.C.—We do not think the Victorian Wages Board Determination will interfere with existing apprenticeship indentures except as regards the limitation of the hours of labour, which have been fixed at 51 per week.

A.L.T.—Annual practising fees are paid by pharmacists in New Zealand, and all the Australian States except New South Wales and Victoria. We agree with your contention that if a fee is charged, all vendors of medicine should pay it.

J.F.B.—The Journal is owned and controlled by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia. You can materially assist in advancing the interests of your own paper by bringing it before prospective advertisers with whom you do business.

J.H.—The use of the term "Manufacturing Chemist" is not an infringement of the Pharmacy Act, provided the business carried on is a bona-fide manufacturing one. If the words are used by an unregistered chemist in connection with a retail business, it is an offence against the law.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1917.

Your Council has pleasure in presenting this the 42nd Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year 1917.

Meetings of Council.—Your Council held 11 regular meetings and one special meeting. One regular meeting had to be abandoned owing to the railway and tramway strike. The following members attended:—Messrs. T. H. Hislop Dick, 9 (elected during the year); James Dixson, 11; J. Duncan, 8; T. Goldrick, 7 (elected during the year); F. P. J. Gray, 7; F. Lloyd, — (resigned); T. S. Loney, 6; J. F. McKimm, 7; S. V. Penrose, 3 (retired); A. Rogers, 9; E. C. Schofield, 2 (retired); W. Short, 7; Capt. Wadsworth, 8; Ll. P. Williams, 8; J. K. Wilson, 9 (elected during the year). Mr. F. Lloyd resigned his seat on the Council, and Mr. T. Goldrick was elected in his place. Messrs. T. Goldrick, S. V. Penrose, E. C. Schofield and Capt. Wadsworth retired during the year from the Council by effluxion of time, and Messrs. T. Hislop Dick, T. Goldrick, Capt. Wadsworth and J. K. Wilson were elected councillors for the next three years. Messrs. G. F. Goodwin and L. A. Gray retired as auditors, and were re-elected for the year 1917.

Presentation.—A case containing specimens of opium and alkaloids has been presented to the Society by Messrs. T. & H. Smith, Ltd., of London, through the courtesy of our member, Mr. A. Mackenzie, and has been placed in the Society's rooms.

Wages Board.—The Judge of the Arbitration Court made a rule altering the award by inserting the word "Male" in Section 6 (j), which then provided that "No MALE assistant of 21 years or over shall be paid less than £2/15/6 per week." This alteration allowed several girls to find positions as apprentices who otherwise would not have been able to find employment. An opinion has been received from the Under Secretary of Labour that the award does not provide wages for apprentices during the time they attend lectures at the University. An addition has been made to the award by the insertion of a clause, k, in Section 6, fixing the minimum rates of wages payable to fountain assistants. The award lapsed on the 31st December, 1917, and no fresh award has been made as yet.

Pure Food Act.—Two of our members were fined for selling camphorated oil and tincture of iodine not of the quality demanded by the purchaser.

Dispensing Prices.—Several meetings of our members having pharmacies in the City of Sydney were held regarding the price of dispensing, and a satisfactory agreement was arrived at. The several suburban pharmacists' associations were then invited to meet us, when the list was revised. One of the associations sent a letter, stating that their members had adopted the price list.

Early Closing.—This matter had again the full attention of your Council. Representations were made to the Minister to place—(1) Pharmacists' business, public and private dispensaries, and F.S. dispensaries under the management of a registered pharmacist on the schedule of the Act; (2) to close these establishments at 7.30 p.m. on four days per week, at the usual closing hour on the late shopping night, at 1 p.m. on the half holiday, with the right to re-open from 7 to 9 p.m.; (3) to allow registered pharmacists to supply necessary medicine and surgical appliances before and after closing hours on a doctor's prescription marked urgent, and on the written declaration of the purchaser stating that the matter is urgent. This has been done with the intention of taking the responsibility from the pharmacist and giving it to the purchaser. You will have noticed that the Minister intends introducing the Bill fixing the closing hours for pharmacists at 8 p.m.

Health Conference.—The Health Association invited members to attend their conference. Your President attended, and was elected chairman for the evening, when the question of drugs and medicines was discussed. He, together with Mr. Hamlet and Dr. Cooksey, discussed the question of the proprietary medicine trade from the point of view of public health.

Military.—The Principal Medical Officer of the No. 2 Military District asked how many additional qualified pharmacists are available for service abroad if required, and a reply was sent that it is not well possible to give the number of available men, but that our men will come forward when required.

Ownership of Prescriptions.—A member again raised the question as to whose property is the doctors' prescription dispensed by a pharmacist, and a reply was given that doctors' prescriptions are assumed to be the property of the patient who has paid for the prescription.

Recent Strike.—Difficulties were experienced regarding the use of electric light during the big strike. Your Council appealed to the City Council asking that the use of electric light in pharmacies, and specially in the dispensing department, be allowed. The City Council granted the limited use of electric light and gas.

Working on Holidays.—The following important matter has been raised, namely: Can an assistant work in the place, where he is ordinarily employed as assistant, during the official holiday which he receives annually. Our reply was that

he can do with his holiday what he likes, and there is no objection for him to do the usual work during his holiday, provided that he receives the pay in terms of the Wages Board Award.

Doctor's Prescriptions.—A complaint was made by a doctor through the B.M.A. that one of our members had adversely criticised the doctors' prescriptions, and had advised the patient to come to him for treatment. Your member replied that he is in the habit of doing just the contrary, and that he always advises patients to consult legally qualified medical practitioners.

The Title "Chemist."—The Australian Chemical Institute wrote suggesting that we discontinue calling ourselves chemists. A reply was sent that we have a vested right to use the name, and that we cannot give up that right.

Conscription.—The matter of conscription has again been discussed at the time when the last referendum on conscription was taken in the Commonwealth. It was decided that no action be taken which might embarrass the Government.

Journal.—It was decided to renew the existing contract with *The Chemist and Druggist of Australia* to supply that journal to our members for the year 1918 at the price of 4/- per member.

Education.—Overtures have been made by the University to establish a College of Pharmacy in connection with the University. The matter is still in its preliminary stages, but there is every likelihood that a satisfactory arrangement will be made. The main features would be that our students will be separated from the medical students in the matter of chemistry and materia medica, that teaching in pharmacy with practical work will be commenced, and that after due notice is given the Preliminary Examination is stiffened so as to allow a third year's course at the University with the view of obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy.

Arbitration Act.—The Arbitration Amendment Act is before the Parliament in its final stages at the moment when this report is being printed. The points which refer to the business of a pharmacist are that preference to unionists has to be given, and that managers are not in future to be included in the Wages Board awards.

Weights and Measures Act.—Your Council also desires to state that under the Weights and Measures Act it will be necessary to have the weights and measures stamped, and to have a scale in a prominent position on the counter, or on another place where it can be seen. All packages ready-made for sales must have the net weight of the contents stated on the packages. But this is not necessary when the article is weighed in the presence of the purchaser.

Retiring Councillors.—Messrs. J. F. McKimm, T. S. Loney, A. Rogers, and W. Short retire this year from the Council by effluxion of time. They are the only members who have been nominated for the four seats. Messrs. G. F. Goodwin and L. A. Gray retire as your auditors. They have been nominated again for the position.

Finance. — Your Council presents the annual statement of receipts and expenses for 1917, with the statement of assets and liabilities. Your finances are in a healthy condition. There is a surplus of £90 on the year's working. £500 has been taken out of the Savings Banks, and have been invested in the War Loan.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1917.

Dr. Cr.

1917.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.—To Balance in Bank	43	7	1
Dec. 31. „ Sales of Books	1	0	4
„ Fees for Diplomas	2	12	6
„ Fees and Reinstatements	1	0	6
„ Subscriptions	413	14	0
	£461	14	5

1917.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31. To Stationery and Printing	21	18	9
„ Advertising, and "Chemist and Druggist"	107	0	10
„ Auditors	2	2	0
„ Insurance and Bank Fees	6	11	0
„ Wreath	1	0	0
„ Gas	0	15	3
„ General Meeting	7	8	0
„ Postage and Petties	19	12	7
„ Subscriptions to Conference	1	0	0
„ Refunded Subscriptions and Fees	2	12	0
„ Books	6	1	4
„ Telephone	2	0	0
„ Savings Bank	100	0	0
„ Assistant	76	10	0
„ Secretary	100	0	0
„ Balance in Bank	7	2	8
	£461	14	5

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.

1917.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31. To Balance in Bank				7	2	8
.. Savings Bank, 1 1/17	757	17	5			
.. Paid into Bank	100	0	0			
	857	17	5			
.. Withdrawn	500	0	0			
	357	17	5			
.. Interests	28	1	9			
				385	19	2
.. War Loan				500	0	0
.. Library	139	6	7			
.. Less 5 per cent.	6	19	3			
				132	7	4
.. Furnishings, etc.				140	0	0
				£1165	9	2

LIABILITIES.

1917.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31. To "Chemist and Druggist"				84	4	4
.. To Defence Fund	100	0	0			
.. To Capital	981	4	10			
				1081	4	10
				£1165	9	2

BENEVOLENT FUND.

1917.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.—In Savings Bank	14	0	0
Dec. 31. Interest	0	10	4
	£14	10	4

1917.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31.—In Savings Bank	14	10	4
	£14	10	4

Audited and found correct,
L. A. GRAY, G. F. GOODWIN, } Auditors.

A. FORSTER, Secretary.
Sydney, 31st December, 1917.

Sixty Years Ago.

Extracts from the Quarterly Journal and Transactions of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria.

VOL. I., NO. 2, APRIL 1ST, 1858.

The Society.

The first annual meeting of the Society has been held, and so far the report of the Council, for the year just ended, must be accepted as speaking favourably for the future interests and well-being of the body it represents. A considerable amount of money has been received by the treasurer, much of which remains as balance in his hands. A reference to the document will show that a good deal has been achieved during the brief period of office of the late Council—a circumstance which should be received with satisfaction by the members.

Men possessed with any power of penetration will perceive that the events of the past year augur well for the future usefulness of the Society: and the successful representations it has been enabled to offer on very important subjects, from time to time, to the powers that be, prove to the members the great advantages of being so associated for mutual advancement and protection.

Let each individual member ponder these things in a comprehensive and liberal spirit, and let him reflect though for his subscription an equal immediate return may not always be obvious, yet that his mite, added to others, is secretly working for the advantage of himself and brethren in many ways not perhaps perceptible at the time. He, however, benefits by the gentle thermal under-current of feeling nurtured by such unions, and every now and then feels more vigorously the protection of a body which must always be powerful if it remains united.

At the Counter.

A Judge of Pigs.

A member of a Pharmacy Board was recently appointed a Justice of the Peace. On the morning that the announcement appeared in the papers, a big bluff-looking farmer walked into the pharmacy and commenced asking the pharmacist all sorts of questions about an ailing sow. The symptoms described were so contradictory that the honest chemist was forced to candidly admit that he was unable to diagnose the disease the sow was suffering from. Upon this confession of ignorance, the farmer roared out laughing, and as he walked out of the shop he roared out: "Ha! Ha! Ha! You can't tell me what is the matter with my sow, and you have just been appointed a Judge of the Pigs." It then dawned on the chemist that the farmer was taking a rise out of him, and he heartily joined in the joke.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

A SATISFACTORY YEAR—VICE-PRESIDENT TAYLOR REVIEWS POSITION—PHARMACY BOARD GRANT—ADOPTION OF SYNONYM "EUTOSAL"—LODGE DISPENSING DISSUSSED—CHEMISTS WAGES BOARD.

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on Tuesday, March 5, 1918, at 8.30 p.m.

The Vice-President (Mr. H. B. Taylor) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Misses Kathleen Hope and Ruby Cruise; Major Kruse, and Messrs. H. D. B. Cox (Sydney), Goode, White, Hughes, Sare, Dickson (Geelong), Bartleman, N. Pleasance, A. E. Davis, W. J. Davis, Garrick, Lee, Gabriel, Towl, J. W. Black, Yelland, Kernot (Geelong), John Barker, Wasley, Buckhurst, Huntsman, Wiltshire, Morieson, Pickford, Walker, Piper, and the Secretary.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the minutes of the 60th annual meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

Welcome to Mr. Cox.

The chairman said that he desired to extend on behalf of the Society a very hearty welcome to Mr. H. D. B. Cox, President of the P.A.T.A, of N.S.W., and Chairman of Directors of the N.S.W. Branch of the P.D.L. They were always pleased to have Interstate visitors amongst them, particularly pharmacists like Mr. Cox, who had devoted so much time and attention to the interests of pharmacy. They were particularly glad to see Mr. Cox with them, because two or three months ago he was the victim of a serious motor accident, which nearly caused the loss of his life. They could ill afford to lose men like Mr. Cox, and he sincerely trusted that their visitor might long be spared to continue his good work and to promote friendly feeling between the mother State, which he represented, and themselves. He asked them to accord Mr. Cox a right hearty welcome. (Applause.)

Mr. Cox, on rising to respond, received a hearty welcome. He said that he desired to thank his Victorian friends for the kind reception they had given him. He was very glad to have an opportunity of being present at the annual meeting. Although he had come over on other business, he was extremely glad that their annual meeting coincided with his visit to Melbourne, as it gave him an opportunity of listening to the discussions, and renewing many old friendships previously formed. (Applause.)

The chairman said that he was extremely pleased to notice that, despite the inclement weather, they were favoured by the attendance of two lady members, and that the Geelong pharmacists were also represented by two of their members. He thought that, before the meeting proceeded further, these ladies and gentlemen should be accorded a special welcome. (Applause.)

Returning Officer's Report.

The Secretary read the report of the Returning Officer (Mr. S. Baird), declaring the unopposed election of Messrs. D. A. Cossar, E. G. Owen, J. C. Pickford and H. B. Taylor as members of the Council, and Messrs. R. H. Shackell and Thomas Woodward as auditors. The Returning Officer's report was received, and adopted.

Annual Report and Financial Statements.

The chairman said that, as the annual report and financial statements had already been published and circulated to members, he would like someone to move that they be taken as read and received. This having been done, the chairman rose to move the adopotion of the report. Mr. Taylor said:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—

In moving the adoption of the 61st Annual Report and Financial Statements, and dispensing with the usual set presidential address, I have been actuated by two reasons. In the first place, I am only temporarily occupying this position in the absence of our esteemed President (Major Cossar), and, secondly, there is a good deal of important business on the notice paper, the consideration of which would necessarily be delayed by an address from the presidential chair.

The report, which is already in your hands, indicates that the Council is ever watching your interests. No impartial critic can fairly deny that much useful and valuable work is being done by this Society. I doubt very much if the Pharmaceutical Society has ever stood in a better position. Our College property is a valuable testimony to long years of faithful service. Our Journal is on a good footing, and members, I feel sure, will appreciate the enthusiasm and zeal which the Editor bestows upon it. Financially, our position is steadily improving. Our membership is now the largest it ever was, and the members individually and collectively continue to take a keen interest in the Society's welfare. This year we have a record number attending the classes at the College. Our lecturers and demonstrators are imbued with a sincere desire to give their best to the students and the institution. Both Dr. Plowman and Mr. Turner have had a very busy year, but they have come through the ordeal with credit, acknowledging frankly that their work has been rendered much lighter by the care and attention Mr. Parry has given to his duties. I am sure you will all regret to hear that Mr. Turner has been very ill, and will join with me in wishing him a speedy recovery. The office staff has also given every satisfaction to the Council during the year.

It must be highly gratifying to you all to have read the report of the Royal Commission on the Defence Department, insofar as it deals with the pharmaceutical section of the A.A.M.C. We tender our congratulations to Major Cossar, and Captains Williams, Wadsworth, Cowley, Fox, George and Drake. They have been judged by their work, and have come out of the investigation with honour. No one knows how many thousands of pounds have been saved by the appointment of expert pharmacists in the Base Depot for Medical Stores. I believe that Major Cossar has already been very successful in his mission to London. At any rate, it is very satisfactory to Australian pharmacists to know that he has been able to secure commissioned rank for twenty-one of our boys who went away with the earlier contingents. The experience which Major Cossar will gain will be of great value to the Society, and I hope that upon his return he will consent to give us an address on his impressions of the places he has visited.

I would like to refer at this stage to the course of lectures on sanitation, infection, etc., which has been arranged. This class will commence immediately after Easter and will be held on Wednesday evenings at the College. Dr. John Johnston, D.P.H., will be the lecturer. I feel sure that the course will be largely attended. Much valuable information will be imparted, and I need hardly say that pharmacists will obtain a large amount of useful information by attending the lectures.

There are only two other matters I wish to mention. The first is a rather a serious one. It relates to the Government grant to the Pharmacy Board. Members will very much regret to learn that, after thirty-six years, during which the grant has been in existence, the Board was informed last week that it had been discontinued. Those who are acquainted with the self-sacrificing work of the members of the Board and the impartial manner in which they carry out their administrative duties, will agree with me when I say that I consider this grant justified by the results attained. I sincerely trust that the Government will reconsider its decision, and restore the grant at an early date.

The second matter relates to our relations as pharmacists with the recently formed Australian Chemical Institute. We felt somewhat keenly the position we were placed in regarding admission to membership of this Institute, and rightly or wrongly, believed that our course of training and examination entitled us to some recognition at the hands of the Institute. Another point at issue was the question of the title "Chemist." Upon this point pharmacists have an open mind, but any legislation which would impair our rights regarding the use of such titles as "pharmaceutical chemist," "dispensing chemist," "homœopathic chemist," or "chemist and druggist," would be keenly resented and strongly opposed. Members will appreciate the fact that the Council has arranged for a conference with the Institute regarding these matters, and I am very hopeful that a satisfactory settlement will be arrived at.

We will have many problems facing us during the next few years. They may tax our patience and affect our pockets, but if we meet them resolutely and unitedly, I do not fear the result. As a body our future destiny is in our own hands, provided we are true to the traditions of the past and do not allow our personal inclinations to override our duty to the craft as a whole.

Our relations with the other pharmaceutical organisations during the year have been mutually satisfactory. We are all working towards the one end—the advancement of pharmacy. I trust these happy conditions may long continue.

In conclusion, may I be allowed to express my thanks to our esteemed Secretary for his valuable help to me during the time I have had to carry out the presidential duties.

I now formally move the adoption of the annual report and financial statements.

Mr. Owen said that he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution. He did not think it was necessary for him to say very much further, as the report and financial statements spoke for themselves. The position, taken as a whole, was very satisfactory. Notwithstanding that a few years ago they had committed themselves to an expenditure of nearly £1000 on the College building, they had been able to considerably reduce their financial liability to the bank, and he thought they might congratulate themselves on the very fine additions to the College property. The *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* was a valuable asset. The Society had advanced £350 towards the Journal, but this was set off by available assets, which, if realised, would completely wipe out the Society's overdraft.

Mr. Kernot supported the resolution. He said that he would like to congratulate members on the successful report which had been placed before them. The Society's affairs seemed to be going along well, and there was every prospect of another favourable year. There was one matter, however, which he viewed with some concern, and that was the discontinuance of the grant to the Pharmacy Board. With the permission of the meeting, he desired to refer to this matter after the adoption of the annual report.

There being no further discussion, the motion for the adoption of the annual report was carried.

Grant to the Pharmacy Board.

Mr. Kernot, with the permission of the meeting, said that pharmacists would learn with considerable regret that during the past week the Government had informed the Pharmacy Board of the discontinuance of the annual grant of £200. He thought that this was a most regrettable circumstance. The Board was constituted in 1876, and amongst its administrative duties were the carrying out of the Poisons Act and the Medical Act, Part 3, and the conducting of

the various examinations. From information he had gathered, he found that for many years the annual grant averaged about £316 per annum. Expensive litigation during the nineties financially embarrassed the Board, and the Pharmaceutical Society had to come to its assistance. In 1895 the grant was reduced to £250, since when, with the exception of three years, it had remained at £200. This amount was just sufficient to enable the Board to make ends meet. At no time had the balance in hand at the end of the year been more than £36, and at the end of the last financial year the balance stood at 10/10. It would be readily understood that if the Board received no Government assistance, it would have to find other means of raising revenue. To do this would require an amendment of the law. The bank would not make any advances except on a joint and several guarantee of the individual members. He considered that the Pharmacy Board was doing a public duty in conducting the final examinations gratuitously. In this connection the members were rendering a service to the community which, if paid for at the ruling rates, would represent something like £150 per annum. The Pharmaceutical Society, by allowing the Board the use of its offices and examination rooms at a nominal charge, probably saved the Government £125 per annum. He understood that in 1916 the Government grant in New South Wales amounted to £400, and that a similar amount had been placed on the estimates for the current year. He had carefully gone through the last financial statement of the Board, and he did not think there was much room for retrenchment without reducing efficiency. The Registrar's duties were onerous and confidential, and the salary paid was not, in his opinion, excessive. The matter was one in which the Pharmaceutical Society must render every assistance possible, and he therefore moved the following resolution:—

(1) That this meeting of chemists desires to record its appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the State by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria during the 42 years it has been constituted, particularly in regard to the administration of the Poisons Act, and the honorary work performed by the members of the Board in connection with the various examinations under the Medical Act, Part 3.

(2) That it learns with concern and regret that the annual Government grant of £200 has been discontinued.

(3) That in view of the important public work the Board is doing, the Honourable the Treasurer be asked to reconsider his decision to withdraw the grant; and

(4) That the Council be authorised to take such steps as it may deem desirable to endeavour to have the grant restored.

Mr. Towl said that as President of the Board he desired to second the resolution which had been submitted to the meeting by Mr. Kernot. One could scarcely conceive the large amount of work the Board had to deal with. Only those who were intimately acquainted with its inner working knew the nature of the duties which had to be undertaken. The Hon. the Treasurer had withdrawn the grant on the ground that, in his opinion, the Board should be self-supporting. It was difficult to see how this could be brought about with the existing means of raising revenue. There was only one other alternative which they should not be asked to adopt except as a last resource, namely, the imposition of an annual practising fee. He regarded the system of charging chemists an annual fee as a pernicious one, but they could not allow the work done by the early pioneers, such as Messrs. Blackett, Bosisto, and many others, to languish without making some effort to overcome the difficulty. He, with the Registrar, had interviewed the Hon. the Treasurer, and also the Hon. John McWhae, Minister of Public Works. As a result of this interview, Mr. Butchers was asked to draw up a report on the work of the Board. This was duly done, and as President he had signed it. The position now was that the Hon. the Treasurer had agreed to re-consider the matter. He thought that the resolution which had been moved by Mr. Kernot would be helpful. Anything the Society could do to induce the Treasurer to reverse the decision he had arrived at would be work done in the interests of the community. (Applause.)

Mr. Lee, who supported the resolution, said that at a recent conference held at Ballarat, the Minister for Education had given a promise that there would be no reduction in the vote for technical education. As a matter of fact, the Pharmacy Board was undertaking work, which, in other professions, was done by the University, and he considered that it was entitled to some assistance from the Government on that account. It was a deplorable fact that pharmacists on every hand seemed to be subjected to all kinds of attacks. He hoped that when the Treasurer became seized with the importance of the work performed by the Board in the public interest that he would restore the grant to its original amount. Failing favourable reconsideration, he suggested that a copy of the report should be printed and sent to every pharmacist in Victoria with a request that he should interview his local member of Parliament. The Board's position, he thought, was sufficiently strong to substantiate its claims for a continuance of the grant. The Board was carrying out a large amount of work in the public interest, and, in his opinion, it would be a very regrettable state of affairs if public work of this description received no encouragement from the State. He trusted that when asked to do so every pharmacist would take the matter up and use his best endeavour to have the grant restored. (Applause.)

The motion was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

Acetyl Salicylic Acid B.P.—Synonym, "Eutosal."

The Chairman said that the next business on the agenda paper was to adopt the word "Euto-

sal" as an official synonym for Acetyl Salicylic Acid B.P. In connection with this matter, Major Kruse had given notice that he intended to move the following amendment:—

"That the adoption of the word 'Eutosal' as an official synonym for Acetyl Salicylic Acid, B.P., should be opposed on the following grounds:—

(a) It is unscientific and a departure from the scientific.

(b) There is no need for such a synonym, there being already no less than eight recorded in "Martindale and Westcott."

(c) It is a badly-chosen word, the prefix 'Eu' being already 'done to death' in regard to a host of commercial proprietaries, such as Euthymol, Eumenthol, Eudenta, Euresol, Eutona (photo. paper), in addition to numerous drugs.

(d) It conveys no idea of the nature of the substance which it proposed to so designate.

(e) The adoption of such terms causes medical men and pharmacists to become unscientific and superficial."

He desired to point out that the Council had decided to fall in with the other States in regard to the adoption of this word in order that a unanimous request might be made to the Prime Minister. The word was not an ideal one, but it was not easy to find an available word which was more suitable. It was necessary to select some word which was not already appropriated. "Spirol" was the property of the Sigma Co., and "Acetosal," which had been suggested, was too near another registered trade-mark to have any chance of being selected. He therefore moved the adoption of the word "Eutosal."

Mr. Kernot seconded the resolution.

At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary stated that as far back as November, 1915, a deputation of Victorian pharmacists waited upon the Prime Minister (Mr. Hughes), and asked him to adopt some official word in place of the German word Aspirin. Mr. Hughes promised to favourably consider the matter, and asked the deputation to supply him with a list of appropriate names. This request was widely made known at the time, but although efforts had been made to secure suitable names, the following were the only ones which had been forwarded:—

Salaceta,
Salacetic Acid,
Spirene,
Spirol,
Spiryl.

This list had been forwarded to the Prime Minister, but apparently none of the words selected met with favourable consideration. Some 18 months ago Mr. T. Hislop Dick, acting on behalf of the Sydney Western Suburbs' Association, again took the matter up, and had it ventilated on several occasions in the Federal House of Representatives. At this time, Messrs. Smith and Nicholas were manufacturing "Aspirin" under Commonwealth supervision, and had the sole right to the use of that word. Subsequently the Prime Minister cancelled this license, and threw open to all the word "Aspirin." This brought about an entirely opposite state of affairs to that which the deputation asked for. The present move was now directed towards officially adopting a synonym for Acetyl Salicylic Acid, B.P., to take the place of "Aspirin." When Major Kruse's notice of motion was received, he (Mr. Butchers) had forwarded a copy of it to Mr. Dick, and asked for his opinion thereon. A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Ewart, Webster, and Dick, held a meeting, and drafted the following statement in reply to Major Kruse's motion:—

"(a) We do not claim that the word 'Eutosal' is scientific. The name by which the public know the drug Acetyl Salicylic Acid is 'Aspirin,' an unscientific name itself. We wish to popularise another word.

(b) The names in 'Martindale and Westcott' 15th edition are Aspirin, Saletin, Salacetin, Acetysal, and Xaxa. Of these, only Saletin, Salacetin, and Acetysal can be considered. Acetysal is inadmissible, having been registered. In our opinion, Saletin or Salacetin are not likely ever to become popular.

(c) We do not consider 'Eutosal' the perfect word, but though suggestions have been many times asked for, nothing better has been forthcoming. It is short and euphonious, easily remembered, and not likely to be mispronounced.

(d) It is not necessary for use by the public that the name should indicate the nature of the drug, though as a matter of fact, 'Eutosal' does partly suggest its chemical nature.

(e) Medical men and chemists will always know the drug as Acetyl Salicylic Acid, and use that name in prescribing and dispensing."

Mr. Dick, to whom Australian pharmacists were greatly indebted, because of the amount of interest he had taken in the matter, said that the principal point was to give the public some name that was short and easy to pronounce and remember. What was wanted now was a unanimous request from pharmacists throughout Australia to secure the adoption of a word answering to this description. So far as "Spirol" was concerned, Mr. Dick said that his association would have been only too glad to adopt this word, but they understood that the Sigma Co. were not willing to give up their trade rights, and allow the unrestricted use of the word by everybody.

Major Kruse, in submitting his amendment, said that he was now in possession of much further information than he had at the time he drafted his notice of motion. He was then under the impression that it was intended to adopt this synonym, and make it official for medical men and pharmacists. He thought that to do

this would be a mistake. The terms of his amendment sufficiently explained the reasons which actuated him in bringing the matter forward. In regard to suggestions for another word, for some time he had made use of the word "Acetirin," which embraced one portion of the official term, and ended with the latter portion of the word Aspirin.

Mr. Pleasance seconded the amendment.

Mr. Cox, who was asked by the Chairman to speak in reference to the matter, said that undoubtdly Victorian pharmacists had experienced the same difficulty in getting the public to use the official term Acetyl Salicylic Acid. Shortly after the license to Messrs. Smith and Nicholas had been issued, a number of pharmacists procured "Spirol" labels from Melbourne, but owing to certain difficulties which arose, this course of action was discontinued. The public absolutely refused to ask for this drug by its chemical name. They invariably called it "Aspirin." He thought that pharmacists were out to kill German-coined words, which, unless slaughtered now, would be resurrected after the war. Although he did not like the word "Eutosal" very much himself, he thought it answered what was required fairly well. There was another aspect of the question which had been touched upon by Mr. Woolley, who, he understood, was a barrister as well as a pharmacist in the old country, in a lecture which he delivered to a British Pharmaceutical Association. That was that it was to the interest of pharmacists to use these avoided German names as much as possible. Instead of discouraging the use of such words as Aspirin and Lysol, their use should be encouraged, as they were now the property of Britishers, and could never again revert to their original owners. If that were the case, it considerably altered the position so far as Australian pharmacists were concerned. The attitude of the P.A.T.A. towards German words was clear and definite, as the Council had absolutely refused to place on its list any articles which bore German-coined names. Eventually, Messrs. Smith and Nicholas, after a conference which was held in Sydney, agreed to withdraw the word "Aspirin" and substitute "Aspro" in its place. Under these conditions the article was placed on the P.A.T.A. list. He thought that it was just possible that the Federal Crown Law authorities might be aware of the legal position as outlined in the address of Mr. Woolley previously referred to, and that a knowledge that these words would not again revert to their German owners had influenced the Government in throwing the use of "Aspirin" and "Lysol" open to anybody. However, no harm could arise by the adoption of the word "Eutosal," and he thought it would be a forward move if the Society endorsed the proposal.

Mr. Bartleman asked if the Council had any knowledge regarding the attitude of the other States in the matter.

The Chairman said that, as far as he had been able to ascertain, all the States had fallen in with the New South Wales proposal.

Major Kruse said that in the light of subsequent discussion, and seeing that the object of the resolution was purely for commercial purposes to enable the general public to pronounce the word, he would withdraw his amendment. Mr. Pleasance, as seconder of the amendment, also agreed. The amendment having lapsed, the Chairman put a motion for the adoption of the word 'Eutosal,' which was carried unanimously.

Lodge Dispensing.

The Chairman said the question of lodge dispensing had been placed on the notice paper in view of the possible eventualities in connection with the dispute between the doctors and the Friendly Societies. He asked if any member had any suggestions to make for the guidance of the Council.

Mr. Buckhurst said he regarded the question as important. Pharmacists and medical men were now working together, with a better appreciation of their respective relationship than hitherto existed. He favoured coming out into the open and rendering the British Medical Association every possible assistance. There was a possibility of the B.M.A. establishing a system of advice and medicine based on a small weekly contribution. Pharmacists should watch this movement closely, as it would affect them considerably. He believed such a scheme would prove very successful. Let them collectively or individually show medical men where their sympathies were. The interests of both bodies were closely related, and a great deal of good might result if in the present struggle pharmacists were able to materially assist the medical men.

Mr. Bartleman said he foresaw a grave position for pharmacists if medical institutes were formed in different centres. Pharmacists were vitally affected in this matter, and he desired to impress upon the Council the necessity of closely watching the position. He did not think the Friendly Societies would consider the pharmacists at all in connection with their proposal, and that being the case he thought that pharmacists as a body would lose nothing by getting into closer touch with the B.M.A.

Major Kruse said he was of opinion that the B.M.A. might give other advantages besides medical benefits if the scheme for a direct contract system was carefully drawn up. He had discussed the matter that day with a gentleman well versed in insurance matters, and whose advice was that funeral and sick benefits could be given. It would be a simple matter to calculate the contributions on an actuarial basis.

Mr. Dickson (Geelong) favoured meeting the B.M.A. in conference. He would like to know whether the Council had entered into any negotiations with the B.M.A.

The Chairman said that the Council had been in communication with the B.M.A.

Mr. Dickson thought it was very desirable for the Council to act on behalf of pharmacists generally. In the past they had struggled along on individual lines. This had been bad for the pharmacists. He hoped that steps would be

taken to approach the B.M.A. in a friendly spirit. If that were done, they would have the support of pharmacists generally.

Mr. Butchers said the question was a difficult one. They were ready to confer with the B.M.A., and had received a promise from a member of the Council of that body that in the event of the direct contract system taking definite shape a conference would be convened. In the meantime, it was difficult to know what more could be done, as the dispensary movement had to be considered. Pharmacists were becoming more alive to the desirability of adopting the Tariff system. The present method of lodge dispensing was a gamble pure and simple. It was not fair to the pharmacist. He had received a sheaf of letters from pharmacicts asking for assistance and guidance. In answering these he strongly advised all the pharmacists in the one district to meet and agree upon the terms of their contract. In the past the lodges had gained by chemists competing with each other. Undoubtedly the contract system was the better one. It had been adopted by the Defence Department, and was in operation in Great Britain under the National Health Insurance Act. If health nationalisation came to Australia, it was certain to be adopted. He realised the desirability of acting collectively, but it was difficult to propound any workable system under existing conditions. If the dispensary movement extended much further, pharmacists, for their own protection, would have to meet the problem in a co-operative way. If the B.M.A. scheme was gone on with, he thought it would be better to support it wholeheartedly, even if it meant a possible falling out with the lodges.

Mr. Kernot (Geelong) mentioned that the Geelong Chemists' Association had met and considered the question. As a body they had agreed not to enter into any contract for the supply of medicines without first submitting the terms to the association, and abiding by the decision of the meeting. They had further decided not to make any agreement with medical men individually. If the Geelong division of the B.M.A. approached the Geelong Chemists' Association, they would certainly meet them. The whole of the Geelong chemists were acting as one in this matter. This was the first step. Individual bargaining had been abolished. In its place the association collectively would act. If the Pharmaceutical Society could confer with the B.M.A. on these lines, it would be for the good of all.

Mr. W. J. Davis said it would be an advantage to pharmacists to act as a body. Last week his lodge had approached him with regard to repeat prescriptions. He had refused to dispense repeats except on a doctor's order. He pointed out that his position was neutral, and he declined to take sides in the present dispute. He could only do that by sticking to the terms of his agreement.

Mr. Dickson said this question was a vital one. In Geelong, out of a population of 40,000, something like 15,000 were connected with the dispensary. A medical institute had now been formed. The pharmacists should support the doctors, but to do this effectively they must act together. It would never do to agree to any system which would open the door to favouritism. It was with a view of rendering this impossible that the Geelong chemists were acting as a body.

Mr. F. Lee favoured adopting a neutral attitude. There were two sides to every question, and he doubted the wisdom of joining forces with the medical men. In his opinion, the doctors would lose. Personally, he was proud to belong to a Friendly Society. To the A.N.A. he owed a great deal. He objected to any medical association dictating whether he should belong to a Friendly Society. Pharmacists to-day were suffering from the mistakes of the past. As a body, they had no quarrel with the lodges. Why, then, be drawn into one? Was it to their advantage to make a quarrel? He did not think so. It was unwise to take any steps which would detrimentally affect their relations with the lodges. He would not favour any negotiations being entered into with the B.M.A. at the present juncture. He doubted if the Medical Association would go on with its proposed direct contract scheme. The policy of pharmacists should be to refuse to take sides in the matter.

Mr. Kernot: "We are trying to work out our own salvation. Do the lodges consider us when they open a dispensary?"

The Chairman said that the Council would carefully consider the points raised. As no resolution had been moved, he thought they might now proceed to the next business. Item 5 on the Agenda Paper was

The Chemists' Wages Board.

He would ask Mr. Pickford, the Society's representative on the Board, to outline to the meeting what had been done.

Mr. Pickford said that the Board had held three meetings. At the first meeting a chairman had been selected—Mr. E. Notley Moore, P.M. At the next meeting, an informal discussion took place on the whole question of hours, wages, etc. The assistants had asked for 44 hours per week. The employers asked for the existing hours—58. After a long discussion, the chairman fixed 51 hours as a working week. These hours would be worked between 8.30 a.m. and the legal hour of closing, viz., 8 p.m., on ordinary nights, and 10 p.m. on Fridays. There was nothing to prevent longer hours being worked, but if they were overtime rates would have to be paid. The assistants had put up a good fighting case on the question of reducing hours. It would be noticed that the chairman's decision in favour of 51 hours was exactly halfway between 58 and 44.

Another question discussed was the question of apprentices. The decision arrived at was that apprentices should receive 10s. a week during the first year, 15s. per week the second year, 20s. the third year, and 25s. the fourth year. This, he thought, was a reasonable rate. Pharmacy was the only business in which, under the Factories

Act, a premium could be accepted. If pharmacists could get a higher premium they could reimburse themselves the higher wages which now had to be paid. Regarding the proportion of apprentices allowed to be engaged, there was a lengthy discussion. Eventually it was agreed that the proportion should be one apprentice to the employer and one to each adult assistant. If a pharmacist were in business for himself, and he had no assistant, he could take one apprentice. If he had an assistant receiving the full rate of pay, he could take another apprentice. He would like to point this out, that if an apprentice was absent, or did not work the full number of hours (51 per week), he would still have to be paid the wages fixed by the award. If the apprentice was absent without reasonable cause, or refused to work, there was a remedy at law. He must serve the full term of four years, and the master could decline to sign the usual declaration if he had been absent.

He now came to a matter of considerable importance. At the meeting of the Board held that evening the employees advanced the contention that, under the Victorian Factories Act, it was impossible to differentiate the kind of work to be done, and that every person employed (excepting apprentices) had to receive the same rate of pay. In other words, you could not pay a registered assistant who was 45 years of age more than you would have to pay to one who was just over 21 years, and had only completed his qualification.

Mr. Morieson: You can differentiate during the first few years.

Mr. Pickford said they could differentiate in regard to the age of a qualified assistant, between the ages of 21 and 25, but they could not fix a differential rate of pay. This opened up a serious problem, and the meeting had come to a dead lock. The position was, then, an inexperienced man would receive a rate of pay disproportionate to his experience. He certainly did not feel inclined to give way on this point if it could be helped. The chairman had promised to consult the Secretary for Labour on the matter, and in the meantime the employers and employees would have to consider the best means to adopt to overcome the difficulty.

Mr. Buckhurst said that one very important point had been decided, and that was with regard to the sons and daughters of pharmacists. The Factories Act did not in any way affect them. In other words, a pharmacist could apprentice members of his family without regard to the number of apprentices he had or to the rate of pay. He had been asked by several chemists to have this point cleared up.

Mr. Davis asked if the 51 hours per week included Sundays?

Mr. Buckhurst said the 51 hours could be worked during the week as a whole. The Board had not yet dealt with the question of the rate of pay for special days.

Mr. Bartleman: Has anything been decided about living on the premises?

Mr. Buckhurst: Not so far.

Miss Hope: I have two apprentices—will this award affect them?

Mr. Pickford: No.

Mr. Huntsman: It does not affect the wages, but it does the hours.

The Chairman said that the matter had been fully discussed. Any future development must be dealt with by the members of the Wages Board. The Council would take any further steps which might be necessary if matters could not be satisfactorily adjusted by the Board. As that concluded the business, he wished to thank the members for attending in such good numbers, and declared the meeting closed.

Votes of Thanks.

Mr. Dickson said that it was only right and proper before they adjourned to tender a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and the members of the Council for the self-sacrificing work done by them in the interests of the craft. It was the first time for many years he had been present, and he congratulated the Society on the efficiency of its officers and the splendid buildings it possessed. (Applause.)

Mr. Owen (Hon. Treasurer) responded on behalf of the Council. It was a pleasure to have to respond to the vote of thanks, because it indicated the appreciation of the members at the work the Council was doing. He was the oldest member on the Council, having been a continuous member for 26 or 27 years, and he was still going strong. He thanked them, on behalf of the Acting President, for so cordially expressing their appreciation, and expressed the hope that the coming year would prove as equally satisfactory as the year which had just passed.

Mr. Buckhurst said he hoped the meeting would not terminate without placing on record their appreciation of their Secretary's work. Mr. Butchers was the right man in the right place, and he brought to bear on all his work an ability and enthusiasm that would be hard to equal, and which certainly reflected credit on the Society and himself. He thought that he had earned a hearty vote of thanks as a continued testimony of the confidence of the members in his work and the capable manner in which he carried out his duties. (Applause.)

Mr. Butchers thanked the members for their expression of confidence. A little praise sometimes oiled the machinery wonderfully. If he worked hard and gave his best it was because he realised that the gentlemen he was associated with on the Council were of one mind in caring for the welfare of the craft as a whole. His best reward was to see the Society grow and prosper. He had made many friends in pharmacy, and although sometimes he had to undertake unpleasant duties, he always endeavoured to do them in a nice way.

The meeting then adjourned.

P. A. T. A.

VICTORIA.

Annual Meeting of Members.

The annual meeting of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association of Victoria was held at Sargent's Cafe, Elizabeth-street, Melbourne, on Wednesday, March 6, at 8.30 p.m.

Mr. S. J. Fripp presided, and there were also present Messrs. H. D. B. Cox (President of the P.A.T.A. of N.S.W.), Attwood, Barnard, Bartleman, Craven, Champion, Cheshire, Gabriel, Garrick, Hadden, Lock, McDonald, F. W. Pleasance, Reid, C. J. Sayle, A. Stevenson, Towl, Wasley White, MacLennan (Secretary), Piper, and Butchers.

Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Formal business having been transacted, the Chairman moved the adoption of the annual report and financial statement, which were as follow:—

The year now being reported upon has been one of considerable interest to members of this Association, particularly in regard to the increased number of lines added to the list, and the manner in which the principles of the Association have been so well maintained.

The system of contract involved in the purchase of a proprietary article, on the understanding that a definite minimum retail selling price must be adhered to, has long been an accepted condition of business. Doubtless there are objectors to this system from time to time, but the principle has been established by law, and so long as the margins of profit are shown by the list to be reasonable, the interests of the consumer as well as the wholesale and retail distributors are well conserved.

During the year there have been cases where the contract conditions of sale have not been adhered to. Some retail sellers have offended through ignorance or carelessness. Others have broken their contracts, desiring to make a name for cheapness during a "Sale" or "Fair" time. After interview and negotiation, the majority of traders have accepted the position and terms of sale laid down by the proprietary of the brands concerned. In other instances where they have refused to do so, the proprietors have refused to supply, and thus have kept faith with the large number of traders to whom they have intimated and agreed with on the terms and conditions of distribution.

It is satisfactory to note that a number of very important lines have been added to the list, and the position now is that the majority of leading brands of certain goods are on the list.

The increased number of lines on the list seems to have the effect of impressing upon the distributing trade that the powers of the Association are being used with greater strength than ever as occasion demands.

The Association is not desirous in any way to restrain trade. Its object is to maintain open all the channels of distribution, so that the proprietary articles shall reach the consumer along the easiest channels. To stop traders getting supplies is, therefore, the last object of this Association, but, obviously, where business has been done on a clear understanding that particular prices fixed shall be maintained, it would be manifestly unfair to permit any dealer or a few dealers to take an undue advantage by claiming freedom "from" contract, as against others who are bound by contract or accepted custom.

The proprietor of an article establishes his trade by the merit of his goods and educating the public to purchase. He is the best judge as to what the public should be called upon to pay, and also as to the margin of profit which will encourage the distributor to sell. If distributors do not agree with the manufacturer, they are not called upon to sell against their will, as the distributor is free to buy other lines, and the system of "boycott" does not enter into the Association's affairs.

Reports of breaches of contract, whether from non-members of the Association or members, will continue to receive attention.

Your Council desire to emphasise the fact that the work of this Association is carried on openly. Criticism of the list is welcome from whatever quarter it comes. The Association is not afraid of publicity.

During the year many of the P.A.T.A. lines have been given window displays, and the principle of conserving such displays for Proprietary Articles Trade Association's lines appears to be well observed.

Financial report is annexed, and, although the expenses of the Association have increased to some extent through the Association's scope and influence being extended, the balance at credit at the end of the year indicates the soundness of our financial position. In fact, it may be stated that practically from every point of view the year 1917 establishes a record.

The Association's books are always open for new members, and your Council appeal to those who are not associated with us to consider the advisability of joining. A glance at the list and consideration of the work done will make it easily perceptible that the Annual Subscription is more than compensated for by the continuous work done by the Association.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year ended 31st December, 1917.

Receipts.

To Bank Balance, 1st January, 1917..	£8	2	7
„ Subscriptions—			
Manufacturers	153	19	2
Wholesalers	15	15	0
Retailers	120	17	0
„ Goods Sold	1	4	6
„ Advertising	20	10	0
„ Exchanges	0	2	6
	£320	10	9

Payments.

By Printing and Stationery	£38	15	0
„ Postages, Exchange, Fares, Telephone, etc.	18	4	11
„ Goods Purchased	1	19	7
„ Audit Fee	2	2	0
„ Rent Room, Annual Meeting	1	1	0
„ Advertising M.C.A. List	1	0	0
„ Refund P.A.T.A. of W.A.	1	1	0
„ Secretary's Salary	240	0	0
„ Bank Balance, 31/12/17	16	7	3
	£320	10	9

Audited and found correct, 7th Feb., 1918—
H. M. BARKER, A.I.A.V.,
Licensed Auditor.

President's Address.

Mr. Fripp said that some members had expressed an apprehension that the Association would have to dissolve owing to the operation of certain new regulations which had just been issued under the War Precautions Act. He did not anticipate any trouble on this point. At any rate, the present regulations only affected infants' and invalids' foods. The Government was aware of the existence of the P.A.T.A. It admitted that it was the privilege of a manufacturers' agent or proprietor of articles such as were included in the list, to fix the price at which such articles should be distributed. Further, it admitted that the P.A.T.A. method of maintaining those prices was strictly within the law. The committee did not fear any reasonable regulations which might be made. All that the Association stood for was to ensure a fair trading profit. It was perfectly willing to submit its objects and the lists which it issued to the closest inspection. During the last twelve months the protected list had grown until it now comprised 274 lines, indicating that manufacturers were finding it advantageous to have their goods protected. Amongst the new listed lines were A.B. Tonic Wine, Nujol, Capsolin, Valeria, A.M.S., Krushen Salts and Kruse's Fluid Magnesia. In the next list Wawn's Wonder Wool, Horlick's Malted Milk and Beefine would appear. The membership remained about the same. But fifteen new manufacturers had joined, representing in all 48 lines. This had helped to swell the list. During the year 127 price-cutting complaints had been received. Most of these were successfully dealt with. It was satisfactory to note that the Association had been strengthened by the Victorian Merchants' Association joining as a body. (Applause.) The Council has been fully alive to its duties in connection with complaints. In twelve cases it was necessary to request traders to take no further interest in P.A.T.A. lines, as they were not willing to comply with the conditions. One significant feature was that out of the last dozen complaints, seven were received from non-members. This showed that even those who refused to subscribe the £1/1/- membership fee at least appreciated the value of the organisation. He hoped to see some scheme evolved during the year for increasing the membership.

Mr. Towl seconded the adoption of the report. The Association was doing a valuable work. It had big prospects before it, and with patience and perseverance its principles would gradually become more and more recognised by those who at present were not members. His advice to the executive was *festina lente*. Care and discretion were never more necessary than at present, particularly in view of the recent regulations under the War Precautions Act.

Mr. Barnard asked whether other retailers except pharmacists were included in the item Subscriptions, £120/17/-. The Secretary said that the membership at present only included retail chemists, three wholesalers at £5/5/- each, and manufacturers, whose contributions amounted to £153.

Mr. Barnard said that grocers derived all the advantages, but contributed nothing towards the cost.

The Secretary explained that the Grocers' Association was sympathetic, but had been so harassed by price fixing regulations that it was unable to take any active steps in the matter during the year. It was noteworthy, however, that the ten leading wholesale grocery firms were joining as from January 1, 1918.

After a further brief discussion, the motion for the adoption of the report was carried.

Election of Office-bearers.

Mr. J. Garrick, returning officer, declared the following office-bearers duly elected for the ensuing twelve months:—

President.—Mr. S. J. Fripp.

Council.—Messrs. R. E. Wood, A. T. Price, (representing the wholesale merchants), C. L. McDonald, J. Lomax, J. R. Drake, C. J. Sayle, and F. Cheshire.

The President announced that there were three further vacancies on the retail section of the Council. Messrs. F. N. Pleasance, W. B. Reid and F. W. White were nominated by the meeting, and consented to take office.

Telegram from Mr. Zions.

The chairman stated that he had received the following telegram from Mr. Zions, Secretary of the P.A.T.A. of New South Wales:—

> "Our Association congratulates its sister organisation on the past year's satisfactory progress despite the war, under the capable administration of its present officers, and thanks you for affording our President an opportunity of attending your meeting."

This telegram gave him (the chairman) an opportunity of extending a welcome to Mr. H. D. B. Cox, President of the New South Wales P.A.T.A. He was sure they were all glad to have Mr. Cox with them, and would appreciate a few remarks from him on P.A.T.A. matters.

Address by Mr. H. D. B. Cox.

Mr. Cox, who was received with applause, said that he regarded it as a fortunate circumstance that he should have been in Melbourne at the time of the annual meeting. New South Wales was under such a debt of gratitude to Victoria for the lead given in pharmaceutical education and the formation of the P.D.L., an organisation which he regarded as invaluable, that it was some slight consolation to know that the P.A.T.A. had its origin in the mother State. If everything could be told regarding the history of the P.A.T.A. movement, it would be an interesting story. Many difficulties had to be overcome, especially in the earlier years. Many of those difficulties would not affect the Victorian Association because they had been overcome—he trusted, for all time. The two organisations, although separate bodies, were bound by close ties, and their mutual progress closely affected every pharmacist. He gathered from conversations he had had that the Victorian association was not unfamiliar with their old friend—the man who professed complete independence of everybody, who said he was a law unto himself and would paddle his own canoe, who would go his own way and everybody else could go theirs—the man, in short, who said, "Do your damndest, I don't care." Well, they had got past that stage in New South Wales. The people who cut prices were not the retail pharmacists, but the outside traders. The question had been raised by a previous speaker regarding the membership of retailers. All he desired to say in that connection was that the main burden of supporting the P.A.T.A. financially was not on the retailer, but on the manufacturer. Some three or four years ago, when he was endeavouring to stimulate interest in pharmaceutical matters, he wrote to one of the trade papers pointing out the actual financial returns a chemist derived from his P.A.T.A. subscription. Prior to the formation of the Association some thirteen years ago cutting was extreme and general around Sydney. Conditions existed such as had never been experienced in Melbourne. All this had been changed The P.A.T.A. was now firmly established. In New South Wales it had become a sort of article of faith when a traveller visited a pharmacist with a new line the first question he was confronted with was, "Is it on the P.A.T.A. list?" If it was not, then the traveller was told, "When it is placed on the list we can talk business." That was the general attitude of chemists in Sydney. The war had hampered the Association somewhat, but none the less its progress was steady, and quite beyond the utmost dreams of its founders. Pleasant relations existed between the Victorian and N.S.W. Associations. He hoped they would long continue. He congratulated the committee on having appointed a business man as secretary—(applause)—and he might be pardoned for saying that this step, in his opinion, had been one of the principal causes of the Association's progress. (Hear, hear.) He desired to thank them for the kindness shown to him during his stay in Melbourne and for the privilege of being able to say a few words on a subject very near and dear to him.

A Few Words by the Secretary.

Mr. MacLennan said he wished to thank Mr. Cox for his kindly references to himself. He took the opportunity of expressing his indebtedness to the P.A.T.A. of N.S.W., particularly to the Secretary (Mr. Zions) for the considerable amount of assistance and advice which that gentleman had given to him, and on behalf of the Association he desired to publicly thank Mr. Zions for what he had done in this direction.

Turning to the Association's work, he regarded the frequent publication of the protected list as of even greater importance than the investigation of price-cutting complaints. The fact that 2500 lists were issued to retailers of all kinds—chemists, grocers, drapers, fancy goods dealers and others—was a constant reminder of the Association's activities. Some of the lines on the list were sold by all the traders he had mentioned. In the main, the price conditions of sale were faithfully observed. There were occasional lapses, but without these there would be no cause for the Association's existence. The issue of the list and the recognition it received was one of the best assets the P.A.T.A. possessed. (Applause.)

Pharmacists were more and more appreciating the work which was being done on their behalf. He had a letter in his hand in which the writer, when enclosing his subscription, said: "I would just like to mention I am delighted with the results—my subscription will be paid three times over from one line of face powder since it was placed on the P.A.T.A. list." Another letter, from a new member, stated: "At last I have succeeded in convincing my father to drop his antiquated Scotch ideas and rub shoulders with live men. I enclose his subscription as well as my own."

Regarding the maintaining of prices, the average trader, when brought face to face with the actual position, generally conforms to what is required. The Association has succeeded in 95 per cent. of cases brought under notice, but members must be patient if, in a few instances, success is not at once apparent. They must not lose their sense of proportion. If the Association could succeed in 95 per cent. of cutting cases, he thought it had accomplished a great deal. (Hear, hear.)

In listing lines, the P.A.T.A. had regard to the amount of profit proposed to be allowed. Where excessive profits were demanded by the manufacturers, the Association's policy was to refuse to list such lines. There must be no exploitation of the public. A fair profit was all that should be aimed at.

Higher Profits Justified.

Mr. Cox (Sydney), replying to a question, said that the New South Wales Association did

not always refuse to list a line which showed a profit exceeding 25 per cent. If a manufacturer decided to list an article, and he said he did not intend to spend money in newspaper advertising, but to give chemists an extra percentage as an advertising premium, the P.A.T.A. might legimitately accept that line. He could not see that it would provoke adverse criticism to do so, and personally he was at any time prepared to justify such action. He hoped they would always remember that the so-called "profit margin" was based on the wholesale selling price, and that the cost of conducting business had to be deducted before the true profit could be arrived at. He mentioned this because the public was apt to be misled as they sometimes were by imagining that the profit rate set out in the P.A.T.A. list was the nett profit.

Mr. Garrick drew attention to a line which came within the class of those mentioned by Mr. Cox. Personally, he would prefer its deletion from the list. Mr. Bartleman endorsed this proposal, which the chairman said would receive attention by the Council.

Mr. W. G. Piper on "Profits."

Mr. W. G. Piper, editor of the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, asked permission of the chairman to reply to a point raised by Mr. Cox regarding the calculation of profits. Pharmacists, he stated, should calculate profits on the selling price, and not on the cost price of the goods. Proprietary article owners always tried to impress retailers with the percentage of profit allowed on the purchase price. Pharmacists should remember that the invoice price was not the real cost price. It was only after overhead expenses had been added to the invoice price that the true profit was ascertained. It was a vicious and wrong method to calculate profits on the purchase price. It was equally wrong to calculate them on the cost price unless the proportion of overhead expenses could be correctly apportioned to each particular line. In practice, this was not possible. Therefore the only safe method to calculate profit was on the selling price. Any other method was most dangerous. He could not hammer the point home too much—never speak of profit on the cost price. Some of the Judges in Insolvency in Great Britain and America had drawn public attention to the fact that many of the insolvencies were due to traders not understanding overhead expenses. The P.A.T.A. movement has been a big thing for pharmacy. He congratulated the Association on its progress, and on having in New South Wales and Victoria two able and energetic secretaries. Pharmacists owed a great deal to these two gentlemen, and the committees who were behind them.

Vote of Thanks.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Secretary, and Council. This was moved by Mr. Garrick, and carried with acclamation. The Chairman, in responding, said that no one could speak too highly of Mr. MacLennan's work as Secretary. The Council was very fortunate in securing his services. As for himself, he had endeavoured to do his best, and he trusted that the P.A.T.A. would continue to prosper and achieve a measure of success, which, if slow, was at any rate sure. (Applause.)

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Fripp entertained those present with light refreshments.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Note from the P.A.T.A. of N.S.W. to Retail Members

You are advised that, notwithstanding the delays and difficulties in fixing prices which we have encountered during the present year, we anticipate issuing a list to come into force some time in March. For your information, we would advise that we are at present negotiating to list:—Wood's Great Peppermint Cure (at 1/6 and 2/9), Creodol, Solyptol Antiseptic, Armand's Face Powders, Black Cat Face Powder, Loretto Complexion Powder, Rosene Remedies, Beefine, Herbna Tonic, Orlex Compound, Pedos Powder, Kemo Compound, Uro-Tabs, Wawn's Wonder-Balm, Urosal, Parmint, Mennen's Tar Shampoo, Zincoplast; and that Capilla, Capilla Soap, Savoury's Hair Stain, Selmo Soap will be removed from the list.

DEFEATING FIXED PRICES.

The action of the regulations under the War Precautions Act is looked upon with grave suspicion by many pharmacists in Sydney, some of whom look upon it as the death blow to trade co-operation for the regulation of prices.

It will not be lawful for any wholesale house to refuse to supply a retailer with any proclaimed article because he sells it at a price lower than the minimum fixed by the P.A.T.A. Fortunately, considering the innumerable articles now on the P.A.T.A. list, comparatively few come under the necessary commodities schedule, and have had fixed prices proclaimed. But the danger is lest quite a number of common lines may be brought under the operations of the Necessary Commodities Act, and this may cause serious competition with cutting houses.

QUEENSLAND.

Presentation to Mr. J. W. Ward.

Mr. J. W. Ward, who has acted as Auditor to P.A.T.A., Queensland, for the last couple of years, was made the recipient of a case of pipes as a token of appreciation of his fellow members. In making the presentation, Mr. S. G. Cowell, chairman of P.A.T.A., expressed the appreciation of the members of Mr. Ward's services, and expressed the hope that he would not consider this as a final discharge of the duties he had so ably performed to the credit of P.A.T.A.

New South Wales.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

A special meeting of the Board was held on February 27.

Present.—Mr. F. P. J. Gray (in the chair), and Messrs. Loney, Duncan, Dixson, and Short.

Constitution of the Board.—The business of the meeting was to consider a communication from the Minister of Health, asking the Board to consider the proposal to add to the Board representatives of those interested in the manufacture and sale of poisons.

After considerable discussion, the following motions were proposed by Mr. Jas. Dixson, and seconded by Mr. J. Duncan:—

(1) That the Board welcomes the addition of two new members as already suggested by the Board, but is adverse to the inclusion of members having outside interests. The reasons are that the Board has to deal with a number of matters of which the Poisons Bill is a minor part, and the influence of outsiders is inadvisable in these matters.

(2) The Board does not consider it desirable that persons from manufacturing and commercial bodies should be members of the Board owing to the financial interests which may be involved. The Board considers that the public interests are adequately safeguarded by the addition of the two members already proposed.

(3) The proposal is contrary to the practices of other parts of the British Empire.

These resolutions were carried unanimously, and the Registrar was instructed to communicate them to the Minister for Health.

Conference with Dr. Chapman. — Professor Chapman, of Sydney University, attended the Board meeting for the purpose of conferring with the members on matters connected with pharmaceutical education.

The following is a digest of the results of the discussion:—

Proposed to leave Botany studies as they are at present.

Suggested that the Lecturer in Chemistry be asked to separate the pharmacy students from other chemistry students, and give them separate instruction.

Materia Medica to be brought up to the Board's requirements.

Practical Pharmacy to be added to the course of instruction as soon as a good lecturer is available.

Botany to be taken in the first year and materia medica (one term) and pharmacy (two terms) during the second year.

Preliminary Education.—Ample notice to be given of the following proposed changes:—The Leaving Certificate will be accepted for the Preliminary Examination if three of the subjects are of the "A" standard of the Leaving Examination, and one as at present, subject to the approval of the Senate.

Advanced Course to be provided for the degree B.Sc., in pharmacy. Suggested that this course should include bacteriology, including serums, etc., higher microscopic examination of drugs and applied chemical analysis. Any registered pharmacist who has passed the matriculation examination, if he wishes to attend this course during the third year, can obtain the degree.

Lecturer in Pharmacy.—A lecturer in pharmacy and dispensing to be appointed. Advertisements for a competent person to be inserted in Australian papers, and a selection committee, consisting of three members of the University Senate and three members of the Pharmacy Board, to be appointed to make the selection. Failing a suitable person being available in the Commonwealth, the position to be advertised in Great Britain.

The Board adjourned.

The regular monthly meeting of the Pharmacy Board was held on March 12th.

Present.—Mr. F. P. J. Gray in the chair, with Messrs. L. P. Williams, W. Short, J. Duncan, J. Dixon, E. E. C. Schofield, and T. S. Loney.

Minutes.—Mr. Duncan suggested that in place of having the minutes written in the minute book, typewritten copies be employed. Finally, after discussion, Mr. Duncan moved: "That a new system of minute keeping be adopted," leaving the matter in the hands of the President and Secretary to make inquiries as to the best method. The motion was seconded by Mr. W. Short, and carried.

Funds.—A letter was read from the Minister for Health, stating that the State Treasurer had approved of the sum of £200 being provided for the work of the Pharmacy Board, the same to be available after June 30th.

Mr. Short: What are we to do in the meanwhile?

The Registrar said that they would be able to manage with care with the funds in hand.

Lord Mayor's Fund.—A circular was received from the State Secretary, enclosing a letter from the Lord Mayor of Sydney, asking for donations towards the Lord Mayor's Fund. The communication was received.

Fines Reduced.—A letter was read from the Attorney-General's Department, stating that His Excellency the Governor had been pleased to remit the fine of King Sam, trading under the name of Quong Lee, at Forbes. The fine of £3 was to be reduced to five shillings, but the costs were to stand.

In the case of J. Donaghey, of Forbes, the fine would not be reduced.

License Refused.—John Cashin, of Oberon, storekeeper, asked the Board to reconsider his application for a renewal of his license to sell poisons. The chemist who had opened was a very unsatisfactory man, and did not meet the wants of the district. Cashin had a large stock of rabbit poison and other lines on hand. He asked for directions as to what he should do

in the matter. The Board decided that as long as there was a registered pharmacist in the district they could not renew annual licenses. Storekeepers knew of this rule. All rabbit and similar poisons for the destruction of vermin, when properly labelled, could be sold without license. Members of the Board spoke highly of Mr. Cashin as a very respectable business man, but regretted their inability to take any other course in the matter.

Purchase of Poisons.—The Inspector called the attention of the Board to a purchase he had recently made in the Newcastle District. It was spirit of salts in a lemonade bottle, unlabelled. The purchase was made on February 21. The inspector suggested that proceedings be taken under the Health Act, and that he be instructed to obtain authority to prosecute under the regulations made by the Board of Health on the matter of selling poisons in a food container. Mr. Williams said that the Minister for Health had recently expressed himself very strongly on this matter, and he thought the inspector should take his purchase to the Minister, and apply for authority to prosecute. After further discussion, in which all members of the Board approved of the proposal, it was decided to call the attention of the Minister for Health to the case, and to request permission for the inspector to prosecute under the regulations regarding the use of bottles as well as under the Poisons Act.

Veterinary Remedies.—Mr. Charles Sykes, M.P.S., of Wauchope, wrote, complaining that a storekeeper was acting as an agent for a firm manufacturing veterinary remedies of a poisonous composition, and was supplying them. He asked if this was not a breach of the Poisons Act. The man was not a veterinary surgeon. It was resolved to reply that the information was very vague, and if the complainant would furnish samples of the preparations, the sale of which he complained, the Board would further consider the matter.

Appeal Upheld.—The Registrar reported that two appeals were heard at Sydney recently. In the Banco Court Mr. Justice Street upheld the appeal of Messrs. John Meagher & Co., of Bathurst. The summons for selling poisons without license at Forbes was served on the firm at that town, instead of at the registered office of the company at Bathurst. The Registrar explained that the mistake had been male by the police, as the inspector under the Board had nothing to do with the service of the summons. The offence was committed at Forbes and the police served the summons on the manager of the firm in that town.

In the second and third cases Moran & Cato of Sydney, and W. F. Weeden, of Young, appealed against convictions for having unlawfully sold poison. The bottles were labelled distinctly "For the destruction of vermin," and hence were exempt from the provision of the Act. The Judge in the District Appeals Court (Mr. Justice Docker) upheld the appeals and quashed the convictions. Mr. Williams said that he thought that a deputation should wait upon the Attorney-General in the matter, and his attention should be drawn to the anomalies in the poisons act with a view of hastening the passing of an amended Act. The motion was secondel by Mr. W. Short and carried.

Substitution and Overcharge.—A resident of Manly wrote complaining that he sent to a local chemist for trusol and paraffin oil, and he was supplied with kresolve and nujol; when he complained the chemist gave him no satisfaction. He was also overcharged for the articles. The Board decided to send a letter to the complaintant, stating that they had no jurisdiction in such a case. Mr. Gray said that some of the complaints he had met with were almost humorous, and would make good reading matter for a certain trade paper.

Repatriation.—A letter was read from the Repatriation Department of Melbourne, asking the Board to assist in the matter of returned soldiers completing their training as pharmacists. Universities were remitting fees and giving facilities for training, and the co-operation of the Board was asked in this matter. Mr. Gray said that in the matter of fees they had a Ladies' Committee in Sydney with funds in hand to assist any returned pharmacist who needed help. Mr. Duncan said that they might remit some part of the fees or even arrange for a remission of some part of the lost time, if possible; but the Board had already decided that they had no power to shorten the time of service of apprenticeship. Mr. Williams said that perhaps they could provide for some cases by special regulations or even, if necessary, by an amending Act. It was decided to reply to the communication, stating that the Board were quite willing to co-operate in this matter.

Doctors Dispensing.—The Inspector reported that while in a country town he attended at the surgery of a doctor who dispensed medicine. The medicines were dispensed by a young lady who had no special training for the work as a pharmacist, and he saw a number of bottles of medicines compounded by her without any supervision from the doctor. One mixture was dispensed in a Wolfe's Schnapps bottle, another in a lemonade bottle. He was charged 10/6 for advice and medicine; his mixture was dispensed by the lady in question. It was resolved to lay an information in the case, and that proceedings be taken in the usual way.

Cases Pending.—The Inspector reported that he had obtained samples and evidence of the unlawful sale of poisons in a number of cases in the Newcastle district, but was awaiting the report from the Government analyst before taking proceedings.

Treasurer's Statement.—This showed a credit balance of £154/17/6. Accounts amounting to £46/18/6 were passed for payment.

Final Examination.—The examiners reported that at a Final Examination held on February

25th, H. J. H. Bloome, A. L. McIvor, and H. R. Brown passed. There were six candidates.

Registration under the Pharmacy Act.—Applications were received from H. J. H. Bloome, of Leura, H. R. Brown, of Darlinghurst, A. R. Ball, of Marrickville, and A. L. McIvor, of Kogarah, having passed their final examination. Registration was granted. In the case of E. G B. Powell, a chemist and druggist of Great Britain, and of Michael Kelly, a pharmaceutical chemist of Western Australia, registration was granted conditionally on their producing the required certificates.

In Lieu of Preliminary.—W. J. Timmings, of Hunter's Hill, and Geo. Schriebner, of Lismore, presented their intermediate certificates. Mary and Selina Puckey presented their leaving certificates, and asked that they be accepted in lieu of preliminary. Granted.

Registration of Indentures.—M. Puckey to C. Puckey, of Wollongong, term 3 years; S. Puckey to C. Puckey, of Wollongong, term 3 years; H. K. Mulholland to L. M. Pattinson and J. Spence, term 4 years. Registration granted.

Interview with Dr. Chapman.—The Registrar reported that the President and some members of the Board had an interview with Dr. Chapman, the new Professor of Pharmacology at the Sydney University, and laid on the table a rough draft of the proposed alterations of the curriculum, as well as a plan for the higher education of pharmaceutical students. Members of the Board expressed their gratification at the progress made.

The Board adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular meeting of Council was held on March 5th, at the Pharmacy Board Room, Sydney.

Present: Mr. Jas. Dixson in the chair, and Messrs. Williams, Short, McKimm, Dick, Loney and A. Rogers. Apologies were received from Messrs. F. P. J. Gray and T. M. J. Goldrick.

Resignations.—Letters were received from Mr. H. S. Brothwood and Mr. S. Naismith resigning their membership. Mr. Brothwood gave as his reason that he was out of the business, and Mr. Naismith said that on account of his advancing years the doctor had stated that he would never be able to resume his business. Both resignations were accepted with regret. It was resolved to write to Mr. H. S. Brothwood acknowledging the valuable services he had rendered to the Society during his long term of office as a member of the Council and during his term as President of the Society.

Concentrated Opium Preparations.—A letter was received from the Acting Comptroller-General of Customs at Melbourne, asking that the Society express an opinion as to the desirability of permitting the sale under license of locally prepared unofficial preparations of concentrated tincture of opium, such as Liq. Opii pro-tincture and other concentrated preparations that may contain opium. A long discussion ensued as to the ethics of using concentrated preparations at all in the work of dispensing.

Mr. Dixson said that he never used concentrated preparations. The duty of the pharmacist was to obey and exactly follow the directions of the British Pharmacopœia, and he would like to see the use of all concentrated preparations abandoned by pharmacists.

Mr. Short said that his experience was that concentrated preparations might be both accurate as regards strength, and convenient for use. This was specially the case where tincture of opium was used for veterinary purposes, where the dose of the B.P. preparation would be a large one.

Mr. Williams said that while they aimed at accurate dispensing, they should not inflict any hardship on those who used concentrated preparations with satisfaction.

Mr. Loney said that in part he agreed with Mr. Dixson; but if the concentrated preparation on dilution provided a preparation meeting all requirements of the British Pharmacopœia he saw no objecion to their use. The Pure Food and Drugs Act insisted on the product being of the full B.P. strength, and this was their protection.

Finally Mr. Dick proposed, and Mr. T. S. Loney seconded, the following resolution, which was carriel unanimously:—

"That while the Council of this Society think that official preparations are better made by the use of the methods laid down by the British Pharmacopœia, the Council sees no objection to the manufacture of concentrated tincture of opium, provided that on dilution it answers the characters and tests of the British Pharmacopœia."

Cypher Prescriptions.—The Secretary laid on the table correspondence from Mr. J. J. Geary, Secretary of the Illawarra Master Pharmacists' Association, asking for the expression of opinion and inviting steps for the suppression of the practice. The Secretary apologised for not laying the letter on the table on a previous occasion. He acknowledged that he had been wrong in not doing so. Mr. Dick wished to discuss the action of the Secretary in this matter. Mr. Dixson ruled the discussion out of orler. He believed that the members of the Council were willing to accept Mr. Forster's apology and explanation. Mr. Dick said that the question of cypher prescriptions had been before the Council on a previous occasion. He thought that a letter of protest should be sent to the chemists making up such prescriptions, asking them to desist from encouraging the practice. In the course of the discussion it was pointed out that the doctor who was concerned in the matter was not a member of the B.M.A., and the B.M.A. had no power to deal with the matter. They had already expressed their disapproval of the practice. Mr.

Dick said that they ought to write a letter to the pharmacist in question in the form of a letter of protest against the practice, and asking them to desist. Mr. Loney said the Council would probably be told to mind its own business. The Council laid itself open to such a reply. If it would do any good he would support the protest, but he was doubtful if the object desired would be accomplished by this means. Mr. McKimm said that the same trouble had cropped up about twelve months ago, and when they wrote to the B.M.A. about it they were told the matter was outside their jurisdiction. Mr. Loney said that in other lands it was illegal for a doctor to write a prescription in cypher. Finally it was decided to send a letter of protest to the pharmacist firm dispensing these prescriptions, on a motion by Mr. Dick, seconded by Mr. Loney. It was also resolved to reply to Mr. Geary, stating what steps had been taken in the matter.

The Treasurer's Statement showed a credit balance of £1086/16/10. The sum of £14/10/4 stands to the credit of the Benevolent Fund. Accounts amounting to £103/10/2 were passed for payment. The Secretary stated that the receipts for the past year exceeded the expenditure by about £90. Members of Council expressed their satisfaction that in spite of some extra expenses incurred, the Society had been more than able to live within its income.

New Members.—Mr. T. E. Dixon, of Dubbo, and Mr. Michael Dryen, of Sydney, applied for admission to membership. A ballot was taken and the applicants were elected.

Application for Diploma.—Mr. S. E. Trevitt, of Coolamon, applied for a re-issue of a diploma, as his diploma had been destroyed by fire. Application granted.

Election of Councillors.—The Secretary reported that Messrs. T. S. Loney, J. F. McKimm, A. Rogers and W. Short had been nominated for the four vacancies on the Council. There were no other nominations.

Election of Auditors.—The Secretary reported that Messrs. G. F. Goodwin and L. A. Gray were nominated as auditors for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations.

Conference.—The Secretary reported that the Pharmacy Board had had an interview with Professor Chapman, and gave a brief resume of the plans which had been proposed. These include separate instruction for pharmacy students, a Minor and a Major course, with a degree in Science of B.Sc. in pharmacy. The matter has yet to be dealt with by the Senate of the University.

A Money Grant.—It was suggested that the Council should grant a sum of money towards the proposed School of Pharmacy, and £100 was mentioned as the sum. Mr. Short supported the suggestion. The fees of students would not go far in the matter of even paying the professor's salary. This sum might be spent in providing the necessary apparatus. Mr. Dick pointed out that the whole matter was more in the province of the Pharmacy Board than the Council. It was resolved to set apart the sum of £100 to assist in the equipment of the School of Pharmacy, but to await the action of the Senate in adopting the plans discussed by the deputation with Professor Chapman.

Annual Report.—The Council appointed the President, Vice-President, and Treasurer a committee to draw up the Annual Report.

The New South Wales Association of Master Pharmacists.

Since last reporting the Committee has been very busy in connection with industrial matters. During the month many new members have been enrolled, and a scheme is on foot to visit pharmacists throughout the State for the purpose of inducing them to join this Association. One enthusiastic member has offered the use of his car for this purpose, and at some future meeting of the Committee a delegation will be chosen to carry out this enterprise. The gentleman who has kindly placed his car at the disposal of the Committee is Mr. W. H. P. Olson, of Kogarah, and the thanks of every member is due to Mr. Olson for this demonstration of his practical interest in the Association. A sub-committee has been appointed to inquire into the various Acts, specially affecting pharmacists, and compile a list of information to guide them. The Committee consists of Messrs. C. F. Webster and T. Hislop Dick.

L. J. Thompson, Secretary.

Present of Radium.

At the March meeting of the Senate of the Sydney University, a letter was read from Mr. Hugh Dixson, in which he transferred to the Sydney University on the terms and conditions detailed in a former communication 30 milligrammes of radium. It was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Dixson for his gift. Dr. C. W. Reid presented recently a valuable collection of anthropological specimens from the Pacific Islands.

Microscopy Society.

A movement is on foot in Sydney to establish a Society of Microscopists for the encouragement of the study of microscopy, and the meeting of members for exhibition of specimens and reading of papers. Mr. W. T. Watkin-Brown, of 24 Browns Road, Kogarah, is the prime mover in the matter. It is urged that as microscopy plays so important a part in health matters and is so useful in the detection of adulteration, the study of this branch of science demands special attention. To a certain extent both the Royal Society and the Linnean Society have done much to promote microscopic study, but it is urged that there is room for a society devoted entirely to this subject in Sydney. It proposes to have a student section, which should prove of great value to any pharmacist who desires to take up the study of bacteriology. All particulars may be obtained from Mr. Watkin-Brown.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on Monday, March 18, at 11 a.m.

Present: The President (Mr. Towl) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Gulliver, Jewkes and Sayer.

Mr. H. D. B. Cox, of Sydney, was present by invitation, and was welcomed by the President on behalf of the members of the Board. Mr. Cox, in responding, expressed his pleasure at having an opportunity to attend the meeting of the Board.

Correspondence.—Letters outwards, Nos. 103 to 240, were read and minuted.

The Under Secretary wrote, notifying that the Regulation under the Poisons Act providing for the use of round tins as containers of poisonous disinfectants had been approved of by the Governor-in-Council on February 26.

The Under Secretary also wrote, notifying that at a meeting of the Executive Council, held on February 19, Mr. C. E. Towl had been appointed President of the Board for the ensuing year.

Allan V. Dawson, Stawell, wrote, asking for advice as to the best course to pursue in connection with his apprenticeship indentures. His employer had left the State, and no provision had been made regarding the transfer of the indentures. He was advised that he should apply to the local Court of Petty Sessions for the cancellation of the present indenture, and upon this being obtained he should enter into a fresh indenture for the balance of the time necessary to complete the four years.

Dr. F. H. Campbell, Hon. Secretary, Victorian Branch of the Australian Chemical Institute, wrote intimating that a conference had been arranged between representatives of the Institute and the Pharmaceutical Society. He suggested that two delegates from the Pharmacy Board might be appointed to attend the conference. It was resolved that the President and Mr. Buckhurst attend as the Board's representatives.

The executors of the late John McBurney, Kilmore, applied for a further extension of the permit to carry on the business, which they had tried in every way to dispose of. Extension granted for six months.

Messrs. Gibson & Sons, manufacturers of disinfectants, wrote, submitting a label and asking for the Board's approval of same. Informed that the label did not comply with the provisions of the Poisons Act, inasmuch as it did not bear the word "poison" on it.

Further correspondence with the Bendigo School of Mines was read in reference to the inclusion of physics in the Intermediate Examination. The Lecturer in Chemistry at the School of Mines expressed the opinion that questions on physics should not be included in the syllabus of chemistry except those dealing with specific gravity and the physical gas laws.

Name Restored to Register. — The name of Francis Bartlett, Spring street, Melbourne (Certificate No. 677), was restored to the Pharmaceutical Register.

Enrolment of Managers.—W. E. Thomas, managing for J. F. Young, Prahran; B. McMary, managing for J. F. Hughes, 599 Elizabeth-street N., Melbourne; John Wright, managing branch pharmacy of A. W. B. Aumont, 124 Smith-street, Collingwood.

Poisons Licenses.—Certificates under the Poisons Act were granted to John J. Passe, Lancefield, and Lionel F. Malcolm, Berriwillock.

Exemption Certificates.—The following applicants submitted University certificates and applied to be exempted from passing the Preliminary Examination:—Jean Helen McWilliam, Annie Elizabeth Hopcroft, Linda Tuomy, Eric Carmichael Train, Beryl Athalie Adams, Rupert Guthrie Heaney, Isobel Freer-Smith, Gladys Muriel Bridgford. On the motion of Mr. Fleay, seconded by Mr. Buckhurst, it was resolved that a charge of 10/6 be made for each exemption certificate issued.

Apprentices' Indentures Registered.—The following apprentices' indentures were registered:—Sibyl Taylor to G. W. Francis, Melbourne; John Bell to G. T. LeCouteur, Glenferrie; Edna May Watson to Jas. Hislop, Windsor; Annie E. Hopcroft to C. E. Towl, Melbourne; Eileen M. and Rita McDonough to F. Longmore, Melbourne; Jean Helen McWilliam to F. Buckhurst, Melbourne; Keith D. Bennetts to C. T. Loughman, Clifton Hill; Thomas R. Harrison to J. W. Florance, Camperdown; Linda St. Leger Tuomy to R. W. Maxwell, Prahran; Marie Madden to M. Zions, Glenferrie; Norman Jacobs to J. F. Young and S. Adamson, Prahran; Felix Tattam to J. H. Goode, Moonee Ponds; Eric C. Train to J. A. Walker, Northcote; Margaret A. Milne H. N. Lemmon, South Yarra; Isabella Jane King to W. D. Williams, Glenferrie; William Murray Mills to F. Cathcart, Canterbury.

Police Reports.—Two cases of poisoning were reported, one by carbolic acid and the other by strychnine. In the latter case the strychnine was contained in a paper package which contained no label at all. The police were unable to trace where the poison had been obtained.

Erasure of Name from Register.—Alfred Cooper Lewis, pharmaceutical chemist, late of 599 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne (died.)

The March Examinations.—The following reports were received from the examiners:—

Preliminary Examination held at Melbourne, Ballarat, Hobart, Warrnambool, Maryborough and Casterton. The following passed in the order of merit in which their names appear:—Henry R. Luker (honors), Lance Whitaker, Linda Gargett, George T. Skinner, John E. Box, Lindsey M. Knight, Nettie Downton, Francis Kelly, Wm. M. Mills. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at a subsequent examination:—Latin: Wm. C. Hutchison; Algebra: Thomas V.

Dobson, Doreen Craddock, Newman P. Murphy; Geometry: Veronica Kelly; Algebra and Geometry: Norah M. Tucker, Terence P. Tighe; Latin and Arithmetic: Dorothy M. B. Harris; Latin and English: Vida Harris; Arithmetic and English: M. Loughnan; Arithmetic and Algebra: Clarence E. Matthews.

Final Qualifying Examination (Practical Pharmacy).—The following passed in the order of merit in which their names appear:—M. C. Patrick (honors), Wm. Bell, A. E. Clemence, Jas. Clark, J. Murphy, J. Phillips, Mabel Allan, Annie Cunningham, Mary Moorhead, Sara Woolfe, Bertha Mtson, M. J. Carroll. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at a subsequent examination:—Section 3 (Practical Work): F. A. Bankes, G. M. Dorman. Section 3 (Paper): J. Hargreaves, W. W. Courtney, G. H. Kendall, W. B. Maine, F. R. Tyler, Sylvia P. Mitchell. Section 3 (Paper and Practical Work): J. A. Bennets, H. A. Bossellman, W. E. DeGruchy, A. Kenny, W. J. Leggett, R. H. McBurney, Geo. McFarlane, G. S. Netherway, T. H. Ryan, C. H. Rigby, G. T. Whitford.

The Examiners' reports were adopted.

Withdrawal of Government Grant.—A communication was received from the Under Secretary, notifying that the Hon. the Treasurer (Mr. McPherson) had issued instructions that the annual grant to the Board was to be discontinued. The President stated that on receipt of this communication he, together with the Registrar, had waited upon the Hon. the Treasurer and explained to him the nature of the work carried out by the Board. Mr. McPherson asked that a report on the subject might be submitted to him. This request had been complied with, but before the matter had been finally dealt with the Government had asked for a dissolution of Parliament, and under these circumstances nothing further would be done until the political situation was cleared up.

Prosecutions and Inquiries.—The Registrar reported that the following cases had been dealt with since the last meeting:—

Henry Gamble, pharmaceutical chemist, Flinders-street, Melbourne (two charges), ergot capsules not labelled nor entered in poisons book; fined £6/6/- and £4/4/- costs.

Aubrey H. Gamble, pharmaceutical chemist, Flinders-street, Melbourne, fined £3/3/- and £2/2/- costs.

R. W. Maxwell, pharmaceutical chemist, East Prahran, lysol in whisky flask; fined £3 and £2/17/6 costs.

T. F. Dowling, storekeeper, Omeo, and David Eakins, storekeeper, Omeo, were each fined 20/- with 20/- costs for illegally selling Fellow's Syrup containing strychnine.

Alice Winter, storekeeper, Cassilis, was fined 20/- with £1/18/2 costs for selling Fellow's Syrup and chlorodyne.

A report was received from the police in a country town stating that during the absence of the registered pharmacist on holidays, an unregistered assistant had been left in charge of the business for a fortnight. Resolved that proceedings be taken.

Complaints having been made that Beecham's Cough Pills (green label) were being sold illegally, the Inspector made a purchase of the pills, which had been submitted to the Government Medico-Legal Analyst for analysis. The Analyst reported that he did not detect the presence of any opium or morphine in the pills.

A prosecution was ordered to be instituted in the case of a pharmacist who had sold pills containing ergot and savin without labelling the package with the word "poison," or entering the sale in the poisons book.

General Business.—The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Bailey, submitted the monthly financial statement.

A pharmacist asked whether Spts. Vini Gall., which was not now an official preparation, could be supplied by pharmacists for medicinal use. The President said that it should only be supplied on a doctor's prescription or in cases of urgency. Pharmacists ran a grave risk if they supplied liquor under circumstances which indicated its use as a beverage.

Before adjourning, Mr. Cox thanked the members for their courtesy in inviting him to be present. He was much impressed with the work of the Board and the systematic manner in which the business was dealt with.

The Board adjourned at 1.20 p.m.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Melbourne, on March 5, at 10.30 a.m.

Present.—The Vice-President (Mr. H. B. Taylor) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Francis, Kernot, Owen, Lee, Imes, and Pickford.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Gabriel.

Presentation to the College.—On the confirmation of the minutes, Mr. Kernot said that he noticed with pleasure that a handsome clock had been added to the furniture in the Council room. He understood that the Vice-President had kindly presented this to the College. He (Mr. Kernot) desired to say on behalf of the Council that the members very much appreciated this kind action. Mr. Taylor's interest in the welfare of the institution was well-known, and this presentation was but another illustration of the several kindnesses which he had rendered to the members of the Council and the College. He moved that a hearty vote of thanks be recorded in the minutes, and that a letter be written to Mr. Taylor, conveying the Council's appreciation of his generous action. Mr. Bailey said that he had much pleasure in seconding the motion, which was endorsed by Mr. Lee, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor, in responding, said that he did not feel that he deserved any particular praise for the presentation. He noticed the absence of a time-piece on the walls of the Council-room, and he was only too glad to be able to remove the

defect. It was gratifying to him to know that what he had done met with the appreciation of his fellow councillors.

Correspondence.—A country member wrote, forwarding a sample of tea for analysis. This had been forwarded to the Society's Analyst.

A communication was received from another country member, drawing attention to a doubtful advertisement which was being inserted in a local paper by a chemist carrying on business in Melbourne. He brought this under the notice of the Council because he thought the matter was one which should receive attention in the interests of chemists generally. It was resolved to bring the matter under the notice of the Venereal Diseases Advisory Committee.

A communication was received from a pharmacist in a country district, asking for information *re* the cultivation of medicinal plants such as belladonna, santonine and hyoscyamus. Referred to the Secretary of the Medicinal Plants Board, Melbourne Hospital.

The Secretary, Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland wrote, asking whether it was proposed to take any steps regarding the shortage of industrial alcohol. The position had become very acute in Queensland owing to the refusal of the Colonial Sugar Co. to forward supplies to that State. The Secretary reported that he had made inquiries regarding the matter, and had ascertained that the reason for the shortage was that the Queensland distilleries were manufacturing rum, which paid them much better than making white spirit. The Colonial Sugar Co. refused to supply white spirit to Queensland on the ground that ample facilities existed for manufacturing it locally.

The Southland Chemists' and Druggists' Association, Invercargill, N.Z., wrote, asking for 18 copies of the A.P.F., which had been duly forwarded.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:—

Full Member.—M. Nash, Barkly-street, St. Kilda.

Associates advanced to Full Membership.—W. E. Thomas, High-street, Prahran; W. B. Perry, Murrumbeena; A. Shaw, Nagambie.

Apprentice Member.—Edna Watson.

Mr. Lee's Notice of Motion.—In accordance with the notice of motion previously given, Mr. Lee moved:—

"That the Council in future elect two Vice-Presidents instead of one."

In support of this, Mr. Lee said that no alteration of the constitution was required to give effect to his proposals. He thought it was desirable to have two Vice-Presidents, as when the President was away—as was the case at present—the Vice-President might be prevented from attending meetings of the Council and Committees. In that case the second Vice-President would be available. He also thought that, in having two Vice-Presidents, it would bring forward the younger men on the Council, and make them familiar with the inner workings of the Society.

Mr. Imes seconded the motion.

Mr. Kernot said that he was not opposed to any change which was a progressive one. At the same time, he could not see any reason why there should be a departure from the present practice.

Mr. Owen said that of the twelve members of the Council eight had either been through the presidential chair or had occupied the position of Vice-President. There was a tacit agreement that while the war lasted Major Cossar should retain the position as President of the Society. This had perhaps prevented the members of the Council who had not held office from being elected Vice-President. He intended to oppose the motion.

Mr. Pickford said that he saw no reason for the proposed alteration. He did not think that Mr. Lee's arguments were sufficiently convincing to warrant a change being made.

Mr. Lee, in reply, said that he brought the motion forward in what he considered the best interests of the Society. He was quite prepared to abide by the decision of the meeting.

Messrs. Imes, Lee, Francis and Champion voted for the motion, and Messrs. Bailey, Kernot, Owen and Pickford against it. The chairman, following Parliamentary practice, gave his vote against the motion, which was therefore lost.

Mr. Lee said that he had also given notice that he intended to move that the constitution of the committees of the Council be altered. He thought that the present selection of Committees might be improved, and that a definite system should be adopted. In his opinion, the following Committees should be appointed:—Education, Finance, Formulary, Journal, Organisation, and House, and that two members of the Council should be appointed on each Committee, the President, Vice-President, and Hon. Treasurer being ex officio members. This would distribute the work better, and he thought would promote greater efficiency. The House Committee would deal with all matters regarding the College building, equipment, furniture, etc. The Organisation Committee was a new one, and would handle such matters as new legislation, lodge dispensing, national insurance problems, and other questions affecting the trade interests of pharmacy. The names of the other Committees spoke for themselves. In view, however, of the lateness of the hour, it would be impossible to discuss these matters fully that morning, and he therefore desired to withdraw the motion for the time being.

Concentrated Opium Preparations.—A letter was received from the Comptroller-General for Customs, asking for an expression of opinion as to the desirability of permitting the sale under license of locally manufactured unofficial proprietary concentrated opium preparations, such as liq. opii pro. tinct., and other concentrated preparations which may contain opium. The letter pointed out that concentrated tincture of opium was not provided for in the B.P., and that there

was a danger of permitting the sale and use of such preparations owing to the liability of mistake in the operation of dilution.

This communication was discussed at some length. Mr. Bailey said that he was quite opposed to sending an affirmative reply, as there was no knowledge of any preparation on the market which, when diluted, fully complied with the B.P. tests. Mr. Pickford said that it would be a great convenience to pharmacists if the concentrated preparations were allowed to be used. He could see no objection to this, so long as the preparations were of a definitely known composition. Mr. Bailey said that in the 1885 Pharmacopœia concentrated liquors were provided for. They were, however, deleted in the 1914 Pharmacopœia. This showed that the experience gained during that time did not warrant their continued use. He did not think that the small amount of alcohol which would be saved in using concentrated preparations justified the Council in departing from the present practice. He moved that a reply be sent, stating that the Council was opposed to the introduction of any concentrated preparations of opium, which, when diluted, did not conform to the characters and tests of the B.P. The motion was seconded by Mr. Owen.

Mr. Pickford moved, as an amendment, that the Council favoured such preparations provided they conformed to the B.P. tests when diluted.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. Lee, and on being put to the meeting was lost. Mr. Bailey's motion was subsequently carried, together with a further resolution that a letter be sent to the Department, conveying the terms of the decision arrived at. Mr. Pickford said that at the next meeting he would move that the first resolution be rescinded.

Business for the Annual Meeting.—Arrangements were made for the business to be discussed at the Annual Meeting. Major Kruse, having given notice of motion regarding the word "Eutosal," the Council, after consideration, decided to support the adoption of the word. It was also decided to make provision for Mr. Kernot to move a motion in reference to the discontinuance of the Government Grant to the Pharmacy Board.

The College Grant.—The Secretary reported that the College grant of £500 to the College had been struck out by the Hon. the Treasurer, but that in view of the undertaking given by the previous Government to guarantee the bank overdraft on the security of the annual grant during a period of six years, the Treasurer had again restored the Grant.

Conference with Australian Chemical Institute.—A letter was received from the Victorian Branch of the Australian Chemical Institute, stating that a sub-Committee, consisting of Professor Masson, Messrs. C. S. Dawes, R. J. Fletcher, and the Secretary had been appointed to confer with a sub-committee of the Society and the Pharmacy Board in order to discuss matters of mutual interest. Professor Masson had expressed the desire that Dr. Plowman, who was a member of the Institute, should be asked to allow himself to be added to the sub-committee. It was resolved that Mr. A. R. Bailey, Mr. J. C. Pickford and the Secretary should represent the Council on the proposed Conference. Approval was given to the suggestion that Dr. Plowman should attend as a member of the A.C.I. sub-Committee.

Lodge Dispensing.—Several letters were received from pharmacists relative to the dispute existing between the Friendly Societies and the British Medical Association (Victorian Branch). It was asked in one case whether the dispute affected existing agreements between chemists and lodges. A reply was forwarded stating that such contracts were not affected, provided they had been entered into directly between the lodge and the pharmacist. The lodge in such cases was liable to pay the chemist his quarterly accounts just as usual. In another case, two chemists in the one town agreed that they would only contract with the lodges on equal terms, and they stipulated that lodge members should have a free choice of going to whichever chemist they desired. The lodges were desirous of giving their work to one chemist only—the lowest tenderer. A reply was sent, stating that the two chemists had adopted the proper procedure in the action they had taken. It was also suggested that if the lodges did not fall in with the proposals which had been made, they might be disposed to consider the advisability of paying for medicine on a tariff basis.

The Course in Sanitation, etc.—Dr. Johnson forwarded a detailed syllabus of the proposed course of lectures on sanitation, hygiene, etc. A communication was received from Major Kruse strongly urging the Council to go on with the course, which he considered would be of great advantage to pharmacists, particularly those connected with military work. It was resolved that a syllabus of the lectures be printed, and that the course be commenced on Wednesday, April 10, provided not less than 25 entries were received by March 31.

Assisting Returned Soldiers.—The Comptroller, Department of Repatriation, wrote asking what measure of assistance the Council was prepared to render to returned soldiers desirous of completing their pharmaceutical course. It was not expected that the College would be in a position to remit the full amount of the fees, but it was considered probable that a substantial reduction might be made. It was resolved to reply, stating that the Council was prepared to render every possible assistance to returned soldiers who were pursuing their studies in pharmacy, and to carefully consider each individual case brought before it with a view of determining to what extent financial concessions could be made. The difficulty, however, which confronted the Council was that its resources and income were limited, and secondly that no information was at present available regarding the extent to which any proposed concessions were likely to be taken advantage of. Further consideration would be given to the matter on receipt of information as to

the nature and extent of concessions being made by the University and other Colleges of Pharmacy.

General Business.—The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, showing a credit balance of £54/3/4. Accounts amounting to £278 10s. were passed for payment, and the meeting at 1.20 p.m. adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

Central Committee.

The Central Committee met at the College of Pharmacy on Thursday, 14th March, at 8.30 p.m., when Mr. J. F. Hughes presided.

Articles on Loan.—The suggestion to adopt a uniform slip regarding the non-exchange of goods liable to convey contagion met with a wide measure of support, 1500 slips having been ordered.

Employers' Federation.—It was decided to obtain particulars as to affiliation with the Victorian Employers' Federation, as it was considered that this body was doing good work and deserved the support of the Association.

Easter Holidays.—Suggested that hours for business on Good Friday and Easter Monday be the same as those of last Christmas Day and New Year's Day, namely, that pharmacies be closed between 12 noon and 6.30 p.m. on those days.

Shops Registration, &c.—Reported from all sections that the registration of shops and declarations re stocks of strychnine, phosphorous, and rabbit poisons had been attended to.

Repatriation.—The State War Council asked the M.C.A. to assist in securing employment for returned soldiers, and three such, each possessing pharmaceutical experience, had been referred to the Hon. Gen. Secretary, one of whom had been found a position. The remaining two were available for employment.

Government Gazette.—Resolved that the Secretary be supplied with a copy of the *Government Gazette* each week.

Beecham's Cough Pills were reported as being sold by some at less than the rate stated in price list, viz., 2/- per box. The Hon. Sec. in his monthly circular says: "The reason would be interesting. The higher price can be obtained just as easily as any lower one."

Douglass Mixture.—Suggested to charge 1/- for ingredients in the usual quantity demanded, viz., Ferri sulph, com. 4 ozs., Ac sulph. com. 1 oz. Directions for making and use are:—Dissolve 1 oz. Fe. sulph. in 1 quart water, 1 drm. of dilute sulphuric acid, and put 1 teaspoonful of this mixture in each quart of birds' drinking water.

Alterations in Prices.—Benbow's Dog Mixture, 3/9; ditto, Soap, 1/-; Bickmore's Gall Cure, 1/6; Bishop's Varalettes (Kissengen and Vichy), 2/3; Calvert's Carbol Oint., 2/-; Carbolacene, 2/-; Clarke's Blood Mixture, 4/6; Colgate's Dental Cream, 10d. and 1/6; ditto, Shaving Sticks, 1/6; Condy's Fluid, 2/3; Cuming, Smith Formalin, 2/9; Ellman's Embrocation, Human, 1/9; Veterinary, 1/9 and 3/6; Grimault's Cigs, 3/-; Harrison's Cure-all Soap, Nos. 1 and 2, 9d. each; Hall's Pills and Ointment, 1/6; Lactagol, 3/6 and 5/6; Lever's Hygeia Shaving Sticks, 1/3; Lockyer's H. Rest, 4/-; McClinton's Barilla Soap, 9d.; Melanyl, 9d. and 1/3; Mennen's Talc, 1/3; Pond's Van. Cream, 2/-; Roboleina, 4/-; Sal. Hepatica, 1/9 and 3/6; Pet Feeding Bottle (Sigma Co.), 1/6; Ferri et quin cit, 30 grs., 6d.; 1 drm., 1/-; Quin. Sulph, 6 grs., 3d., 15 grs., 6d., 35 grs., 1/-; Howard's 2 drs., 2/6, ½ oz. 4/-, 1 oz., 7/6; Syrup Hypophos Co., 6 oz., 2/6; Iodex, 2/-; Parmint, 3/6; Saunders' and Trident Ext. Malt, 1/3; C. Oil, 1/9; B., W. & Co.'s Tabloids (bottles of 25), Morn Co., 1/3, Easton's ½ dr., 1/3, 1 dr., 1/6, Laxative Vegetable, 1/3, Syrup Hypophos Co., 1/6; Formalin (bulk), 3d. per oz.

The M.C.A. Price List.—There are some 40-odd chemists who have not yet paid the 1/- for the list that was posted to them during August. The Committee is desirous of balancing up this matter, and trusts that this reminder will bear good fruit.

North Melbourne and Essendon Section.

Lest it prove too embarrassing for our modest secretary (Mr. A. L. Jones), permit me to submit for your journal a report of the meeting of the North Melbourne and Essendon District Chemists' Association, which took place on March 12. A full attendance was registered, with the exception of Messrs. Vale, Keays and Martin, from whom apologies were received for their unavoidable absence. The President (Mr. W. H. Beck) then moved that all business be postponed until the next meeting, and explained that the object of the present meeting was to welcome Mr. Jones to the ranks of benedicts, to celebrate that event with feasting and song, and to present to him some small token of the esteem in which he was held by the members of the section. During the evening songs, as suitable to the occasion as possible, were rendered by Mr. Kendall, of Mr. Beck's staff, Mr. Ivo Thompson and Mr. W. B. Reid, while our versatile President himself favoured with two recitations. All the items were well received, and a most enjoyable supper was equally popular. During the supper Mr. Reid, Vice-President of the Association, at the request of the President, handed over to Mr. Jones the silver salver, suitably inscribed, that had been procured for the occasion. In his remarks Mr. Reid referred to the sterling qualities of Mr. Jones, and to the inestimable service he had rendered to the section in his office of secretary; he conveyed the good wishes of the members to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and wished them all that sincere friends could wish in the way of joy and happiness. Mr. Reid's remarks were ably supported by Messrs. Goode and Jewkes and others; indeed, every man in the room insisted on congratulating this

most popular secretary, and all the company drank to the happy couple in a bowl of steaming coffee. After a few more items of harmony Mr. Jones replied to the kind things that had been said about him, and expressed his gratification that his "poor" services had found favour and his hope that he would still be able to attend an occasional meeting of the association, say once a month, despite the counter attraction at home.

A most enjoyable function then terminated.

WM. B. REID, Vice-President.

South Suburban Smoke Social.

PITH OF THE SPEECHES.—ENJOYABLE EVENING.

An enjoyable smoke social was held by the above Association at the A.N.A. Hall, South Yarra, on Tuesday evening, March 19. Mr. J. W. Cochran presided over an excellent attendance of members and their friends. Amongst the visitors was Mr. H. D. B. Cox, of Sydney, who received an enthusiastic reception.

An excellent musical programme was rendered by Messrs. Claude Hall, G. H. Kendall, W. Mercer, and others. A feature of the evening was the speeches, all of which were uniformly good, Mr. H. D. B. Cox's address particularly being full of "meat." To print all that was said in full would occupy several pages of the Journal. But there were many good points, and, in order that these may not be missed, they are presented here in summarised form.

"Kindred Associations"

followed the toast of "The King." It was entrusted to Mr. Leete, who applying the maxim to himself, "Brevity is the soul of wit" (or, "of good sense," as one commentator puts it) contented himself with welcoming Mr. Cox, as the representative of the Northern Sydney Chemists' Association, and saying a few words of commendation in respect of the other organisations which the toast comprehensively embraced.

"The Board of Pharmacy,"

responded to by Mr. Towl, provided several good texts, which, shorn of their graceful and well rounded periods, were briefly as follows:—

The discontinuance of the Government grant is a "disconcerting proposition," but, like all our troubles, if met with patience and fortitude, some way out of the difficulty will be found.

The ambit of the Board's powers is circumscribed—the Board is given certain Acts of Parliament, and it can only administer them as it finds them.

Tact, encouragement, and helpful assistance to some thirty or forty of the older assistants who have not qualified led to the formation of special evening classes at the College. These were well attended, and last October nearly thirty of these older men passed the Intermediate Examination. Last week 29 of them came up for their Final. They did their practical work wonderfully well, most of them obtaining over 70 marks, in several cases over 90, showing that they had been well trained in the dispensing part of the business. Only four passed the whole examination, but 19 qualified for single subjects (Applause). These men deserve every encouragement. They have done well, and I hope they will succeed in passing the next time they present themselves.

"To Improve Our Status"

and our profession, said Mr. Towl, is our chief aim. As educated men, pharmacists ought to take a leading position in the community. Every pharmacist should gain the respect and confidence of those he has business relations with. Mistakes sometimes happen, yet how rare they are. Let us aim to be even more efficient, more capable, and more alive to our responsibilities than we have been in the past. The pharmacist is the handmaiden of the physician and surgeon. Is he doing all he might in fostering this relationship? Pharmacists should be trained to undertake such work as the preparation of media for cultivating bacteria, urinary analysis, bacteriology, stomach analysis, etc. We are more than mere compounders of medicine—we must understand the making of galenicals, the quality of the drugs we use, and a great number of other things beyond the mere mechanical part of our profession.

"The P.D.L."

response was assigned to Mr. Cox, who was accorded a rousing reception. The value of Local Associations was his main theme, because, as he said, such splendid results had followed their formation in Sydney. They brought pharmacists together, and made them realise that the other chap round the corner was not such a bad fellow after all. A pharmacist now could even go into another man's pharmacy — frequently he partook of hospitality in his competitor's house. How different to the state of things which existed eight or nine years ago!

Prescription pricing—few realised its importance—had come within the scope of the local Associations. A minimum prescription list had been drawn up, and was now being uniformly adhered to throughout Sydney and suburbs. Before the war the average prescription charge per item was 1/6; it was now 2/3. This gave some idea of the financial value of local association work.

Marking of prescriptions was a general practice around Sydney at the present time.

More prosperous conditions had followed this work. Important results arose from this. As pharmacists became financially better off, they were more ready to consider the professional or ethical side of their business

Public interests were placed on a higher plane. The pharmacist was lifted in his own estimation, and he was willing to do more towards raising the standard of his calling.

The P.D.L. stood not so much for what it did, but what it saved pharmacists from. Prevention was better than cure. It was something to know that a substantial reserve fund stood behind the pharmacist when a threat of legal proceedings was made. P.D.L. was one of those organisations they could not do without. All honour to Victorian pharmacists for originating it. (Applause.)

The P.A.T.A. First, Foremost, and Last.

Now about the P.A.T.A., an Association nearer to his heart, because he was one of the founders of it in New South Wales. It had done a great work. It not only procured a fair price to the retailer, but it brought business to the pharmacist. The public preferred buying from the chemist, because it received the benefit of his knowledge and advice. Take infants' and invalids' foods. Some years ago, about 40 per cent. of these were handled by chemists, to-day (he was informed by a wholesale house) pharmacists handled 90 per cent. "The P.A.T.A. is the strongest organisation in pharmacy, without exception," said Mr. Cox, "and it deserves the support of every pharmacist."

Why Not a Pharmaceutical Anthem?

Mr. Cox said they had one in Sydney, and it was sung at all social gatherings of pharmacists. One of the verses was:—

"Brothers of the weight and measure
Cease your work and have some leisure,
Relaxation is a pleasure:
Come and join with me."

The M.C.A.

was responded to by Mr. J. F. Hughes, its President. Pharmacists were proverbial growlers, he said, perhaps not without reason. . . . The veterans of the past were men to be respected and venerated, because of their honourable traditions. . . . The chemist's shop was a public institution—the pharmacist himself came into close contact with the family history of many of his customers, and personality was, therefore, an important factor in his business. This the M.C.A. sought to develop. It strove to bring chemists together and to foster an esteem and regard for each other. He was glad to know that much good was being accomplished in this direction. (Applause.)

"Our Military Pharmacist,"

proposed by Mr. Pickford, was a toast received with acclamation. Eight or nine years ago, said the mover, the Pharmaceutical Society had laid the basis of the present position in military pharmacy. When war broke out, much had to be done, but gradually the position had improved, and during the last twelve months much progress had been made. Major Cossar had made good, and their last news from him was that he had succeeded in securing 21 commissions for Australian pharmacists abroad. (Applause.) Recently General Fetherston had left to meet Major Cossar in another country, with a view of taking him back to England with him. Great praise was due to Captain Williams for his enthusiasm and energy. (Applause.) When the recent Federal Royal Commission visited the Base Depot, of which Capt. Williams was in charge, they were delighted with the system adopted, because it contrasted so advantageously with other departments, and stood out as a model which the Commission did not hesitate to favourably comment upon. Mr. Pickford gave some details of the Commission's investigations which, whilst flattering to Capt. Williams, cannot be published at present. He urged that some consideration should be extended to those pharmacists who were on the A.M.C. Reserve. Why were they not called up and made use of? In conclusion, he urged them all not to miss the opportunity of attending the special course of winter lectures by Dr. Johnston, which had been arranged by the Council.

In a Telling Speech

Captain Williams responded. He paid a tribute to Major Cossar. Of his own work, he spoke but little, giving credit to his staff for much of what had been done. In the Base Depot they were now training returned soldiers. There were 3500 items kept in stock, and it was not a simple matter to keep a watch on so many or to estimate correct quantities to order, and determine whether it would be more advantageous to purchase certain articles as required, or contract for their supply. At his own expense, he had engaged an assistant to go through every line used, so that he would thoroughly understand the whole system and its requirements. Pharmacists must earn their commissions. They were not all entitled to them. Mere dispensing was not sufficient. Men must have the mind and the inclination to learn the necessary routine. Unfortunately, few took this trouble. The work of dentists in the dental corps was in striking contrast. Putting men in the Reserve had been a mistake. Younger men should have been specially trained and placed in reserve, and there were those who should be called out when occasion arose. Capt. Williams concluded, as he opened, appealing to all eligible men to come forward for the honour of their country and do their bit.

Vote of Thanks.

An acknowledgment of the artists' services brought a pleasant evening to a close.

Sale of Morphia to a Nurse.

The case reported in our last issue (page 69) in which the St. Arnaud Hospital committee refused payment of an account rendered by Messrs. F. Longmore & Co., chemists, Melbourne, for the supply of morphine and three dental needles to the late matron of the hospital, was further dealt with at the meeting of the committee on March 1, when the following letter was received from Messrs. Longmore and Co.:—

"We beg to thank you for your courtesy in replying to our letter, but you go from the point to administer a chastisement. The nurse or matron was evidently your servant, and as such we assumed had authority to purchase for a small institution like yours, where most of the ordering is left in the hands of the matron. What we want to know is—Were these articles used in the institution, or were they not? or, failing this, can you oblige us with her address? We are quite willing and able to meet our obligations with regard to the Pharmacy Act."

The Secretary mentioned that he had forwarded a reply intimating that the purchases were not used at the hospital; also that the present address of Mrs. Fraser was not known.

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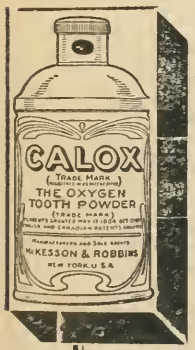

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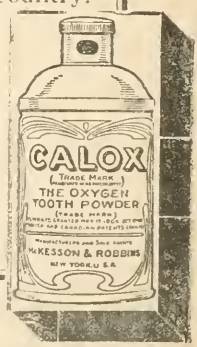

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A great advance in the treatment of Burns (slight or severe)

Gives immediate alleviation of pain, etc., etc.

Also for Chilblains, Ulcers, etc.

SERUMS

OF THE MERRIEUX INSTITUTE, LYONS.

IN "INALTER" VIALS.

The "Inalter" method enables the doctor to keep a stock for any time. Freshly prepared when required.

Also other prophylactic specialities. For human and veterinary use.

HERMOPHENYL

(LUMIÈRE)

(Sodium Mercuro-phenyl Disulphonate).

Antiseptic, Antisyphilitic, of low toxicity.

Tablets for solution; Soap, Ampoules, Pills, etc.

OPOLAXYL

Rational Treatment of Constipation, by Liver, Pancreatic and Intestinal Secretions. In Tablets.

HISTOGENOL

A Nuclein Preparation for Diseases Due to Malnutrition, especially in pulmonary disorders.

Elixir, Granules, or Tablets.

DOSURINE

POCKET CASE FOR URINE TESTING.

Compact—Rapid—Reliable.

Always handy; simple technique.

Specially made for the busy Sister or Nurse.

Brother Chemists!
It's Up to You!

All things being equal, you'll give a friend the benefit of a doubt—now, won't you?

Just on that principle, backed by some solid business reasons, we say it's up to you, as an Australian chemist--up to you in your own interest, and up to you in your customer's interest, to stock

"ASPRO"

Australian-made. Purity as described in the B.P.

Listen to these heart to heart reasons, then—as chemist to chemist—surely it must pay you to stock "ASPRO."

REASON 1.—We are chemists like yourselves, and appreciate your position.

REASON 2.—We make a standard line, but instead of putting all the burden on you to sell it, we advertise extensively, give window displays, and have already created an enormous demand all over the Commonwealth—"ASPRO" is a great seller.

REASON 3.—"ASPRO" is the only extensively advertised line of its kind.

REASON 4.—We protect your prices and profits.

REASON 5.—When you take into consideration our advertising, or even without it, we enable you to get one of the biggest profits on any single line.

REASON 6.—"ASPRO" is an everyday seller.

Being chemists ourselves, we have done to others as we would like them to treat us.

Could we be more fair? Could any firm anywhere put you a fairer, more generous, more business-like proposition than this?

Write to-day for further particulars and price lists—will send them by return mail.

GEO. R. NICHOLAS & CO.

325 FLINDERS LANE, MELBOURNE.

Queensland.

Pharmacy Board of Queensland.

Meeting held February 14, 1918.

Present.—Messrs. A. B. Chater (President), F. W. Simmonds, Alex. Forbes, D. J. Clarke, Geo. J. Mackay, Geo. W. Ward, R. C. Park, and the Registrar (John W. Ward).

Erasure from Register.—John Leguire Adams, Cooktown (deceased 2/2/1909).

Returning Officer.—J. W. Ayscough, Returning Officer, wrote, enclosing copy of proposed advertisement relative to election of 3 members of the Board and a Registrar.

Interpretation of the Word "Competency."—The Registrar, Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, wrote in reference to the interpretation of the word "Competency." The letter was read and referred to the new Board.

Alleged Breach of the Pharmacy Act of 1917.—A pharmaceutical chemist sent a letter with a typewritten signature, complaining that a business of a country chemist was not in charge of a pharmaceutical chemist. It was pointed out that typewritten signatures could not be accepted as correspondence. The Registrar had unofficially sent a reply calling attention to the Act.

"Eutosal."—The Secretary of the Sydney Western Suburbs Pharmacists' Association wrote relative to "Eutosal." To be referred to the Pharmaceutical Society.

Preliminary Examination at Southport.—F. C. Threlfall made application to sit for the next preliminary examination at Southport. He also paid fee. Application granted.

Valedictory Remarks of Registrar.—The President said that the Registrar had asked him if he might say a few words. The members of the Board having granted permission, Mr. Ward said:—

"I have asked permission to make these few remarks so that my position may be made clear. I look back to the time when it was my privilege to work side by side in the interests of pharmacy with such men as C. F. Yeo, Geo. Watkins, A. W. Field, W. G. Clapperton, Thos. Maughan, E. C. Blake, and my father (Moses Ward), all of whom have passed away, and now to you, gentlemen, who for periods varying from 10 to 25 years, have maintained pharmacy in Queensland and have raised it to its present high standard. To such high standard has it attained that the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has not thought it beneath her dignity to accept our certificate granted after examination. Such being the case, I think that I can claim a share with you in the standard attained. I have been associated with the Pharmacy Board of Queensland for a period of 15 years, the last nine of which I have held the position of Registrar, and in this position I think it cannot but be said that I have endeavoured to throw all my energy for and in the interests of pharmacy, to what measure of success is not for me to say.

"The Pharmacy Act of 1884 with all its shortcomings is a thing of the past, and in its place we have the 'Pharmacy Act of 1917,' an infinitely better measure, but that still has many portions which might be improved upon. A good deal will depend on the by-laws framed thereunder for its effective administration. I cannot help but say that honour has not been given where honour is due when I think of such men as A. B. Chater, F. W. Simmonds, D. J. Clarke, Alex. Forbes, Geo. J. Mackay, and Geo. W. Ward, who have worked with an open mind, and in the truest interests of the craft should now on an improvement having been attained in the Act, and with all the useful knowledge they possess, have been cast aside by a Government, and the appointments by that Government, made a political party move. Acting under your directions, and in accordance with the by-laws just gazetted for the election of three members of the Board and of a Registrar, I have notified the Returning Officer to proceed with the elections. To-morrow morning the necessary advertisement will appear in the press, by which you will find that he has fixed March 9, 1918, as nomination day, and April 20, 1918, as election day. This meeting will be the last of the regular meetings of this Board that will be held before nomination day, and in the event of there not being more than one candidate nominated as Registrar, such candidate will be declared elected. I, therefore, shall not have another opportunity of bidding you farewell, for it is my intention not to offer myself as a candidate. In coming to this decision, after mature consideration, I do so feeling that I am serving the best interests of pharmacy by standing aside, and that from a selfish point of view it will pay me better to devote my attention and energy to my personal profession, that of dentistry.

"I have here prepared a draft of what I think will form a nucleus of the new by-laws, and if they will be of any assistance to the incoming Board, I place them at your disposal. I can assure you all, that such information which my long association with the Board has placed me in possession of, will always be at the disposal of any future Board."

The Registrar having concluded his address, the following members, Messrs. G. J. Mackay, D. J. Clarke, A. B. Chater (The President), Alex. Forbes, R. C. Park, F. W. Simmonds, and G. W. Ward spoke in the above order. The speakers commented at length on the self-sacrificing and strenuous work which the Registrar had done ever since he was appointed. He had ever placed the interests of pharmacy in the forefront, often to the disadvantage of his own business. None knew this better than those who had the pleasure of working with him. His painstaking efforts were exemplified by the systematic methods introduced into every branch of his work. The office had been practically reconstructed and converted from a state of chaos into a practicable system of exactitude and order. It was notably char-

acteristic of him to hand over for the new Board's use his voluminous notes to guide them in framing the by-laws for the administration of the Pharmacy Act of 1917.

The President now asked the Registrar to leave the room, while matters concerning his retirement were being discussed. During his absence the Board agreed to grant the Registrar three months' leave of absence on full pay and a fixed sum to be expended in the purchase of a suitable memento in recognition of his long and valuable services. The President and Mr. Park were deputed to carry out the wishes of the Board.

The Registrar on re-entering was informed of the decision of the Board, and after expressing his gratitude proceeded to discuss the more important points in his notes on the new by-laws, detailing and explaining especially those points that could only be decided (matters of policy being involved) by the new Board.

This, the last meeting probably of the old Board, terminated most amicably, and the little friction that had arisen during the previous few weeks vanished like a passing breeze, and left perfect harmony and peacefulness.

Meeting terminated.

The Pharmacy Board of Queensland, 14th February, 1918.

(The last Board under the Pharmacy Act of 1884).

Standing—D. J. CLARKE, F. W. SIMMONDS, GEO. J. MACKAY, GEO. W. WARD, R. C. PARK.
Sitting—ALEX. FORBES (Treasurer), A. B. CHATER (President), JOHN W. WARD (Registrar).

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on February 21. *Present*—The President (Mr. R. C. Park), Messrs. R. Lenehan, J. P. Davies, John Lunn, A. B. Chater, H. I. C. Dent, H. E. Crease. Leave of absence was granted to Messrs. G. J. Mackay, T. J. F. Costin, and J. A. Minnis.

Inward Letters.—Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, enclosing a list of drugs and their incompatibilities. This was passed over to Mr. Lunn for revision, and when returned by him would be revised by the Secretary.

Mr. W. H. Fleay, of Ballarat, enquiring about the operations of the day and night pharmacy in Brisbane.

Sydney Western Suburbs Pharmacists' Association, recommending "Eutosal," as a synonym for acetyl-salicylic acid. This was endorsed by the Council.

Mr. A. J. Costello, of Mackay, thanking the Council for their sympathy with him in the loss he sustained in the Mackay disaster.

Mr. W. W. Holyoake, of Mackay, a similar letter.

Mr. H. C. McIntosh, enclosing a photograph of his pharmacy during the flood in Rockhampton.

A northern chemist wrote, seeking the Council's assistance in obtaining supplies of Tincture of Opium for the requirement of his business. The Secretary stated that he had interviewed the Collector of Customs, who said it was important that chemists should keep a book showing their methods of disposal of opium preparations. Provided he was satisfied that they were disposed of legitimately, there would be no difficulty in the way of a chemist getting all he required. This information had been forwarded.

Mr. S. V. Meredith, Gympie, wrote stating that the satisfactory agreement arrived at since the visit of the President and Secretary showed signs of breaking down. He sought the advice of the Council. It was decided to send the President and Secretary to Gympie to ward off the anticipated breach.

Election.—Miss Lyle Scowen, of Gympie, was elected a member.

Financial.—The Treasurer's statement for the month was read, and two accounts were passed for payment.

Alcohol Shortage.—The Secretary drew attention to the serious shortage in alcohol in Queensland. He said that a deputation of the wholesale firms had interviewed the State Treasurer. There had also been a meeting of representatives of wholesale firms and of the Council to consider the matter, and that further action would be taken after learning what the State Government intends doing. It was decided to leave the matter in the President's hands to arrange for a consultation with the Federal member of Parliament in Brisbane. Meanwhile a letter had been written to the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia asking their co-operation. On the suggestion of Mr. Lenehan, it was decided to insert an article in the daily papers bearing on the matter.

Sale of A.P.F. to Victoria. — The Secretary said that he had received a request from Victoria for copies of the A.P.F. up to 100. After consultation with the President, he had supplied 50 copies, leaving a balance of 23 in hand.

Improper Advertisements.—Attention was called to an advertisement in a country paper by a member, which, in the opinion of the councillors, brought discredit on the craft. It was decided to write to the offender pointing out the Council's objection, and to ask that the advertisement should be withdrawn.

Distress among Chemists as a Result of Flood.—The President was directed to make enquiries with the object of ascertaining whether there are any members suffering distress on account of the recent disasters in Queensland.

Venereal Regulations.—The Secretary said that he had enquired by 'phone from the Department of Public Health when the new regulations dealing with venereal diseases would operate, and whether the Commissioner was drafting the circular he had promised some months ago for distribution among chemists. An affirmative reply was given to the latter question. As to the former, the regulations now apply to the whole State.

The Year Book of Pharmacy.—Authorisation was given for the payment of the Secretary's subscription to the British Pharmaceutical Conference, so that the Year Book of Pharmacy in the Society's library should be complete.

Leave of Absence to Mr. H. E. Crease. — Mr. Crease applied for leave from attendance from the next council meeting, as he would be on holiday in the Southern States. This was granted.

Meeting terminated.

Meeting of Ipswich Chemists.

A meeting of the chemists of Ipswich was held in the office of Messrs. F. C. Allen and Co., on Wednesday, February 27th. Mr. F. C. Allen was voted to the chair. He explained the objects of the assembly, pointing out the necessity for uniformity of action. This applied particularly to the fixing of prices, as the cost of many lines was almost weekly changing. Only by having some definite plan could what was desired be brought about.

A general discussion ensued, and the best of good feeling and unanimity prevailed. Eventually after altering and adjusting numerous everyday lines, from lists brought by each individual for comparison, something definite was arrived at, and a list compiled. It was also decided that all dispensing prices be the same as arrived at by Brisbane chemists. This was to be strictly adhered to, also the marking of every prescription dispensed.

It was decided to meet monthly. If, however, in the interim, any individual noticed a price had advanced, he was to immediately notify the rest, and the price rearranged. It was agreed that the time had arrived for the formation of a Chemists' Association, embracing the chemists of Ipswich and surrounding districts. It was decided that Mr. J. C. Minnis write all chemists in the West Moreton asking them individually if they agreed to such a suggestion. If so, on what date it would be convenient to meet in Ipswich to discuss the matter, and if necessary proceed with its formation. It was thought by the meeting that probably Easter Monday would be a suitable date. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

Business, Floods, and Rains.

After the cyclones and floods in North and Central Queensland, the warehouses in Brisbane have been kept very busy. With the exception of those towns where the full force of the storms was felt, business has been quite good. Mackay has become almost normal again, buildings have

been put into repair or are undergoing repair rapidly, and trade is livening up. While Rockhampton was flooded, money was scarce. It was fortunate that after the flood subsided a heavy fall of rain took place, which had the effect of clearing all the silt and filth out of the streets. Very little sickness has followed the floods in either town, excepting colds and a few sporadic fevers.

Cyclones and floods still continue to bring disaster on North Queensland towns. Innisfail appears, from reports received to-day, to have been practically wiped out with loss of several lives. Cardwell has also suffered severely, while Ingham has been flooded, and Babinda, about 36 miles south of Cairns, where the Queensland Government has initiated a State public house, has only about five houses remaining, even the State pub, costing £20,000, has been partially demolished. Cairns has not escaped the effects of the cyclone. There are no chemists in Cardwell. No news has been received from Mr. A. S. Sampson, who recently removed from Cooktown to Babinda, nor from Messrs. W. H. Green Ltd., of Bowen, Innisfail and Ingham. Mr. Sampson's predecessor at Cooktown was practically ruined by a cyclone which struck that town some years ago. Mr. Boreham, manager for Messrs. Green Ltd., at Ingham, has recently returned from a holiday, and experienced some trouble in getting away from Rockhampton during the recent flood in that town. Most of the district affected by the recent cyclonic disturbance lies in the coastal sugar belt, and are flourishing places, well known to southern tourists, who visit North Queensland during the summer. At present the extent of area affected is not known, but the storm reached as far inland as the Herberton Tableland, one of the most prosperous dairying and farming districts of the State.

Telegrams received by Messrs. Elliott Bros. from the north state that Mr. Sampson's pharmacy at Babinda has been completely demolished. Messrs. Green's shop, at Innisfail, has been unroofed, but the manager, Mr. Roggenkamp, and family, have escaped without injury. Cairns has suffered severely, but the damage is not so great as in the other places mentioned.

Business in South Queensland continues good, though the rainfall has been considerably above the usual average for this period of the year.

Improper Advertisements.

It is unfortunate that certain pharmaceutical chemists will insert advertisements in the local papers calling attention to their own merits as dispensers, and the quality of the drugs they vend, at the same time decrying the ability of the other fellow and the trashy nature of his drugs. Such procedure does not, as a rule, do much good to the individual, and is liable to bring discredit on the whole craft. It is full time for the different Pharmaceutical Societies to make their influence felt in the direction of putting an end to this type of advertisement under penalty of removing the offender from the list of members. The British Medical Association do not hesitate to bring recalcitrant members to book, knowing well that those who persistently offend are discreditable to the Association. The benefits to members of pharmaceutical bodies are now so many that progressive chemists cannot afford to remain outside the body. There are several offenders against good taste in Queensland who might very well be dealt with.

A.P.F.

The exchange of copies of the A.P.F. from one State to another, which has taken place of late, indicate that the available copies of this little volume are getting low. Also that it has fulfilled the purpose for which it was compiled.

During the period of commercial stress that we are passing through the A.P.F. formulae have proved exceeding useful. Many have replaced overseas proprietaries, and especially that preparation introduced to take the place of lysol. The time appears to be opportune for revising the formula, and of adding to them, as it is becoming increasingly clear that normal conditions commercially will not return for some time after the war. In Queensland, the B.M.A., on the authority of its president, are willing and anxious to co-operate with the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society in increasing the value of the Formulary.

Alcohol Shortage.

The shortage of alcohol in Queensland still continues, greatly to the inconvenience of householders, chemists, hospitals, etc. Just at present, the members of the Government are so intensely interested in securing their own return to power that they have no interest in the squabbles between the C.S.R. Co. and the Bundaberg Distillery. Meanwhile, a large section of the community is put to much inconvenience, and patients in hospitals continue to suffer for want of this useful application.

Registrar of the Pharmacy Board.

Nominations for membership of the Board and of Registrar closed on Saturday, March 9th, when the only nomination for the latter position was that of Mr. R. C. Cowley, who was duly declared elected to this position by the returning officer, Major Ayscough, V.D.

Local Chemists' Association.

The Townsville, Darling Downs (Toowoomba and district), West Moreton (Ipswich and district) Chemists' Associations now meet regularly to discuss the drug market and retail prices. The members are actuated by a spirit of co-operation, which we trust will long continue.

College of Pharmacy.

The 1918 session of the College of Pharmacy opened on March 6th with a considerably larger number of students than last year.

South Australia.

Pharmacy Board of South Australia.

The Board met on February 21.

Present.—Messrs. Porter, Moore, M. C., Snook, Hustler, Young, J. H., and Moore, H. V.

Owing to the absence of the President (Mr. Gryst) on military duties, the chair was taken by Mr. W. H. Porter.

An apology was received from Capt. Fox.

Registration.—Miss Ursula Cock, of Moonta, Standard Exm., Nov., 1917.

Examination.—Registrar was instructed to proceed with the March Examination arrangements.

Examiners.—The following were appointed:—Preliminary, Rev. F. Slaney Poole; Botany, Professor Osborne; Inorganic Chemistry, Dr. Cooke; Organic Chemistry, Professor Rennie; Volumetric Chemistry, Dr. Cooke and Professor Rennie; Pharmacy and Materia Medica, Mr. A. E. Hustler and Mr. H. V. Moore; Dispensing, Messrs. M. C. Moore and E. F. Gryst (President).

Mr. J H. Young was appointed as Honorary Examiner as regards Pharmacy, Materia Medica and Dispensing.

Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.

The Council met on February 21.

Present.—President (Mr. W. H. Porter). Messrs. M. C. Moore, Hustler, Snook, Guenther, and J. H. Young.

An apology was received from Capt. Fox.

Registration.—Miss Ursula Cock, of Moonta.

Western Australia.

Pharmaceutical Council of Western Australia.

The 271st meeting, held February 7, 1918, at Perth Technical School.

Present.—Messrs. Sagar (President), Parry, Tilly, Gulley, Lorman, Howling, and Capt. George.

Registration.—George Treby, passed final Examination, W.A.

Apprentices.—D. Mendelamtz to J. M. Rees, J. L. Colenutt to F. M. Colenutt, Claremont, and V. M. Powys to F. P. Gully, West Leederville.

Chemist's Fee Paid.—J. H. Whitlock.

Certificate of Competency was issued to Ernest G. B. Powell, now of Armidale, N.S.W.

Early Closing.—Two complaints were received in reference to the non-observance of the Act. Registrar was instructed to interview the Chief Inspector re prosecution, if necessary.

Honour Board.—It was resolved that the board be brought up-to-date in regard to the names of those who had now left the State for the front.

Diploma.—Staff-Sergt. Shineberg applied for issue of a diploma. Granted.

Military.—As requested, a copy of the 1918 Register was dispatched to the A.I.F. headquarters, Horseferry-road, London.

The 272nd meeting was held at the Perth Technical School on March 7.

Present: Messrs. Sagar (President), A. L. Tilly, H. A. Howling, Lorman, Gulley, Parry and Capt. George.

Chemist Fees Paid.—G. Hartrey, H. H. Bingeman, A. B. Griffiths, W. Richardson.

Apprentices Registered.—S. T. Lippingwell to E. Parry, D. A. Mantock to H. O Howling, E. Bolger to Alex. Trouchet.

Diploma issued to Staff-Sergt. J. J. Dunbar.

Storekeeper's Licence Granted.—G. W. Miles & Co. (Marble Bar and Port Redland).

Yearly Meeting of Society.—This was arranged to be held at the Technical School on Wednesday, the 27th March, at 8.30 p.m..

Health Act Amendment.—The Registrar stated that he had attended before the Select Committee of the Legislative Council. Although there was nothing in the proposed new clauses immediately affecting the pharmacist he had taken the opportunity of bringing under notice the question of dispensing by medical men at the Goldfields. He had also drawn attention to the non-issue of the allowed or prescribed list of proprietary medicines referred to in the Act.

Military.—Various letters having been received from the front, expressing dissatisfaction in regard to the military position or status of the pharmacist, it was resolved that the Registrar confer with the Senior Pharmacist, in order that a letter might be addressed to the Standing Committee, Pharmaceutical Defence, Melbourne, suggesting that united action of all Boards might be invited to place the matter before the proper authority.

Members at the Front.—It was resolved that no subscriptions be levied on members whilst upon military duty in the A.I.F. abroad..

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The Board met at Hobart on February 18.

Present.—Messrs. M. Rushton, H. T. Gould, W. B. Drake, H. Sidwell, and Registrar.

Mr. Drake was unanimously elected to the position of President for the ensuing year, and thereupon took the chair. Mr. Gould congratulated the new President, and moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Rushton for the excellent way in which he had carried out his duties as President during his term of office of four

years. The vote was carried unanimously, and Mr Rushton briefly responded.

Election of Auditor.—Mr P. Facy was re-elected for the ensuing year.

Election of Board of Examiners.—The retiring Board was re-elected, unopposed.

Pharmaceutical Register.—A letter from A. V. Fitzgerald, noting change of address, viz., c/o Presidency Postmaster, Bombay, was received.

Pharmacy Act.—A case of alleged infringement of the Pharmacy Act was dealt with.

Registration of Indentures.—A discussion took place on the mode of registering indentures, and on the question as to whether or not the documents should be in triplicate.

Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.—A letter from the General Secretary was received, intimating that in future the Board will be officially recognised by the Conference.

Use of the Word "Eutosal."—A circular letter was received from the Sydney Suburbs Association, which it was resolved to pass on to the Southern Chemists' Association.

Poison Licenses.—It was noted Mr. G. E. Harrison's application is still incomplete, also that licenses had been issued to Albert Stipek and W. E. Kerrison, both of Beaconsfield.

Annual List of Licenses.—It was noted this had been gazetted on January 29.

Regulations under Poisons Act.—It was noted the amendment (including morphine and its salts) will be gazetted on the 19th inst.

Administration of the Poisons Act.—Registrar's report re Hobart Traders was received and adopted. Registrar was instructed to visit Launceston, and report upon conditions prevailing there. Notice was received from T. J. Cane and Co. that they are sellers of poisons.

Finance.—Accounts amounting to £6/9/3 were passed for payment.

New Zealand.

Poisons Act Defective - Deputation Asks for New Legislation.

A deputation from the New Zealand Pharmacy Board waited upon the Minister of Internal Affairs on February 5, and urged upon him the importance of certain amendments being made in the Poisons Act. It was stated that the Pharmacy Board was unanimously of opinion that the law required bringing up to date, the existing statute being some 40 years old. The Poisons Act was intended to protect the public, yet the schedule of the statute did not contain the names of some poisons which ought to be in it, and these poisons could be sold by anyone without any restriction. Not only was the schedule incomplete, but it was confusing. The Pharmacy Board was of opinion that the administration of the Act should be in the hands of the Heatlh Department. The Board also considered that the control of vendors was inadequate.

The Minister asked whether the deputation could give any cases where clearly improper persons had been registered.

Mr. J. Castle pointed out that the list contained the name of a grocery company. He did not think it right that a firm of that description should be given a license to sell all poisons.

The Minister said that the firm mentioned was handling groceries and so on. He was thinking more particularly of places like Taumarunui and Taihape, and in country districts.

The Minister said that he took it that the underlying objection which the deputation wished to make clear was that grocers and others were allowed to sell classes of goods which, in the opinion of the Pharmacy Board, should be confined to chemists and people having special knowledge.

Mr. Castle said that was really the bedrock of the whole matter, although the Pharmacy Board did not wish to see the sale of poisons confined entirely to chemists. They did think, however, that the more potent poisons should be handled only by people with special knowledge. They did not think unqualified persons should be able to purchase poisons in bulk, mix them, and make a marketable article.

In the course of his reply, the Minister said, with regard to the main point, which was the most important and related to the Act being out of date, it was provided that the Governor could from time to time by Order-in-Council declare that any article should be deemed a poison. There was, therefore, power for the Government to bring the law up to date. He would have the point looked into, and according to the advice of experts would be prepared to add to the schedule whatever poisons they recommended should be so added. As to the suggestion of legislation, he wished to say that he was quite satisfied that an Act which had been so long on the Statute Book was antique, and was probably in some respects obsolete. He would have the legislation of other countries, particularly Great Britain, Australia, and perhaps the United States, turned up, in order that any new legislation for New Zealand might be drafted on up-to-date lines. He was afraid, however, that it would be quite impossible to bring forward fresh legislation except of a very urgent nature until the war was over. But he would have the Act overhauled, and if he could clear up the position, he would certainly do so. The question of incompetent persons being allowed to compound would also be looked into with a view to seeing whether anything could be done.

Legal.

Poisons Act Prosecutions at Omeo.

At Omeo (Vic.) police court, on February 21, before Mr. Gray, P.M., T. F. C. Dowling, storekeeper, Omeo, was summoned for having sold a preparation known as Fellows' Syrup, which contained poison.

Inspector Bowden prosecuted, under the direction of the Pharmacy Board. Mr. Laurie appeared for defendant, who pleaded guilty.

Evidence was given regarding the sale of the article. Mr. Laurie said that defendant acted in ignorance. He did not know Fellows' Syrup was a poison within the meaning of the Act. The general belief was that it was a patent medicine, and therefore exempt. The Act was passed for the safety of the public, but this article, in his opinion, was a safe remedy, and was not considered a dangerous poison. He contended the case was instigated to protect the chemists, and not to safeguard the public.

Mr. Gray, P.M., said there was a common idea that all these articles were patent medicines. Fellows' Syrup was a proprietary article, and not a patent medicine. The sale had been proved, and ignorance was no excuse. The case was a paltry one. Defendant would be fined 20/-, with 20/- costs.

David Eakins, storekeeper, Omeo, was fined 20/-, with 20/- costs, for a similar offence.

Alice Winter, storekeeper, Cassilis, was summoned for selling Fellows' Syrup and Chlorodyne. Mr. Laurie said that Mrs. Winter had taken out a poisons license since the date of the offence. She was fined 10/- in each case, with costs £1/18/2.

Lysol Sold in Whisky Flask.

At the Prahran (V.) police court on February 28, Robert W. Maxwell, registered pharmaceutical chemist, carrying on business at 485 High-street, East Prahran, was charged with having sold lysol not in a bottle rendered distinguishable by touch as required by regulation 13 of the Poisons Regulations 1917.

Mr. W. E. Pearcey appeared for the informant. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Mr. Pearcey said that the informant was the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board. Defendant was a registered chemist, and he was charged with a breach of the regulations regarding the use of special poisons bottles. Lysol was one of the most dangerous poisons. With the exception of strychnine there were more poisoning cases due to lysol than any other poison. In 1916 seven cases were reported, and in 1917 twelve. The public was well served by qualified pharmacists, and it was seldom that the Board had to bring cases against pharmacists before the courts. In this instance, the lysol was placed in a P. & O. whisky flask, which still bore the original label. The penalty provided by the Act was a fine not exceeding £10.

Geo. E. Bate, inspector, gave evidence regarding the purchase of the poison. He asked for three pennyworth of lysol, and defendant supplied it to him in the whisky flask produced. After marking the bottle, he handed it to the Government Analyst.

To Mr. Maxwell: Witness obtained the lysol during the morning on January 17. Defendant personally sold him the poison.

Charles Leslie Butchers, registrar of the Pharmacy Board, said that he instructed the inspector to call at defendant's place of business, in consequence of a complaint having been made to the Board. The inspector returned with the whisky flask produced, and witness told him to take it to the Government Analyst. The Analyst's certificate (produced) stated that the lysol contained equal to 35.36 per cent. of phenolic compounds. Lysol was a scheduled poison. Defendant was a registered chemist. He put in the Pharmaceutical Register and the *Gazette* containing the Poisons Regulations

To Mr. Maxwell: This was the first time any proceedings had had to be taken against defendant.

To the Bench: The practice of putting lysol into domestic bottles was a serious one. Pharmacists as a rule were most scrupulous not to use the wrong class of bottle.

Defendant said he could not remember having sold the lysol. The inspector had a personal bias against him. The label looked as if it had been taken off another bottle. His practice always was to use the regulation blue bottle. He was at a total loss to remember selling the lysol.

The bench held the charge proved, the chairman remarking that defendant had been guilty of a very dangerous practice. He would be fined £3, with £2/17/- costs.

Prosecution Under Poisons Act, Victoria. Pharmacist Heavily Fined.

At the District Court, Melbourne, on Monday, January 25, before Messrs. Jones and Edwards, J's.P., Henry Gamble, registered pharmaceutical chemist, carrying on business at 448 Flinders-street, Melbourne, was charged, on the information of C. L. Butchers, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, with (a) having sold a preparation of Ergot contrary to the provisions of Section 8 of the Poisons Act 1915; (b) having sold a poison to a person who was unknown to the vendor, the sale not having been made in the presence of some witness who was known to the Vendor, and who knew the purchaser, as required by Section 9 of the Poisons Act 1915; (c) having sold a preparation of Ergot, and before delivery thereof not having enquired the purchaser's name and place of abode and occupation, as required by Section 8 of the Poisons Act 1915.

Aubrey H. Gamble, registered pharmaceutical chemist, assistant to Henry Gamble, was charged with having sold a preparation of Ergot by retail in a box without the word "Poison" being printed conspicuously thereon, together with the name of the article and the name and address of the seller, as required by Section 7 of the Poisons Act 1915.

Mr. W. E. Pearcey, solicitor, appeared for the informant. There was no appearance of either of the defendants.

In outlining the case for the prosecution, Mr. Pearcey said that both defendants were registered pharmaceutical chemists, and that the prosecutions were under the Poisons Act 1915, which was passed as far back as 1876. The object of the Act was to protect the public. This was clearly set out in the preamble. It was a very rare thing for a qualified chemist to fail in his duty to the public under the Poisons Act. Section 4 of the Act set out what were poisons, and the second schedule to the Act declared specifically what those poisons were. The schedule was divided into two parts, all the more dangerous poisons being placed under part 1 and the other poisons under part 2. With regard to part 1, it was the duty of all persons selling poisons which came under this heading not to sell them to strangers. They should ascertain the purpose for which the poisons were required, and also the name and address of the purchaser. Persons not known were required to be introduced by a witness, and all sales had to be entered in the Poisons Book. This was to enable the police to trace the sale of the poisons, and the purposes for which they were required. Under Section 7, no person could sell poison either by wholesale or retail unless the vessel or wrapper containing the poison were properly labelled with the word "Poison," and also the name and address of the seller. In each case defendants had violated the Act. The first two cases in particular were very serious, as the articles which were purchased contained Ergot, which was a drug commonly used for the purpose of procuring abortion. The Board was performing a public duty, and in instituting these prosecutions, should be recouped for any expenses which it had to incur. The costs in these cases were heavy. According to the annual report of the Board for last year, the prosecutions in 1917 had cost £84, but only £28 had been received in costs. He asked the bench to inflict a heavy penalty in each case, in order that a recurrence of the trouble might be prevented. The Act provided for a penalty not exceeding £10.

George E. Bate deposed that he was the Inspector of the Pharmacy Board, and that he visited defendant's pharmacy at 448 Flinders-street, Melbourne, on three different occasions, namely, 20th December, 1917, 17th January, 1918, and 8th February, 1918. On the first occasion he said he wanted some emmenagogue pills, mentioning the purpose for which they were required. He asked for 2/6 worth, but Aubrey H. Gamble, who was behind the counter, informed him that he could not sell him less than 5/6 worth. Witness said he supposed he would have to take that quantity. Gamble then took the capsules out of the box and put them into a small chip box. He did not place any label on the box, nor did he make any inquiries from witness regarding the purpose for which the capsules were to be used. He made no entry in the Poisons Book. On the second occasion when witness went to defendant's pharmacy he saw Aubrey Gamble again, and stated that he would require a further supply of the capsules, telling him that he only wanted 2/6 worth this time. Witness said to Gamble that the pills had not the desired effect. Gamble then said that he had not been so successful this year with the pills. Previously he had met with great success. He said he thought that the trouble was that the drugs were not as good as they used to be. He went again to the pharmacy on the 8th February, and repeated the purchase. On this occasion Gamble supplied him with round pills instead of capsules. He placed them in a small round cardboard box without being labelled. Witness marked all the boxes for identification, and handed them to Mr. Batchers, Registrar of the Board. He afterwards took them to the Government Medico-Legal Analyst (Mr. Price).

Mr. Charles L. Butchers said that he was Registrar of the Pharmacy Board, the informant in the cases. He received the three packets from the previous witness, and instructed him to hand them to the Government Analyst, from whom he received the following certificates:—

1. The sample of Gelatine Capsules contained in a small chip box, marked "G.E.B., 20/12/17," has been examined with the following results:—

Found to contain in each capsule:
Apiol, green, 0.45 cubic centimetres.
Ext. Ergot, 0.108 gms.

The above Ergo-apiol Capsules contain drugs used both as abortifacients and emmenagogues.

2. The sample of Gelatine Capsules contained in a pill box, marked "17/1/17," handed to me by Mr. Bate on the above date, has been examined with the following results:—

Each capsule found to contain:
Apiol, green, 0.5 cubic centimetres.
Ext. Ergot, 0.105 gms.

These Ergo-apiol capsules contain drugs used both as abortifacients and emmenagogues.

3. The ten pills were contained in a small chip box, marked in ink, "G.E.B., 8/2/18," and weighed 3.34 gms. (51.50 grains). After removing the outside covering of Talc, the pills averaged 4.16 grains.

They were found to contain Ergot, Aloès, Ferrous Sulphate, also traces of some volatile substance indicating Savin.

This matter had been brought under notice by the Department of Public Health, which asked the Board to take proceedings in regard to all offences of this nature. A warning had been issued in the pharmaceutical journals a month or two previously regarding the sale of these preparations. The reason why Ergot and its preparations had been placed in the first part of the schedule was that as they were frequently used for illegal purposes, it was necessary that their sale should be restricted, and subject to check.

The chairman (Mr. Jones, J.P.) said that the bench had given full consideration to these cases.

The intention of the Act was quite clear. Both he and his colleagues were distinctly of opinion that offences of this nature, committed by registered pharmacists, should be viewed seriously. Defendants could not put forward the plea of ignorance. It might readily be understood that a person other than a registered chemist might not be aware of the technicalities of the Act. But a pharmacist knew what his duties in this regard were. All of the offences were of a distinctly grave nature, particularly as they were committed by registered chemists. It was quite bad enough that the proper entries were not made in the Poisons Book, but these cases were rendered more serious by the fact that defendant allowed the pills to leave his premises without being labelled in any way whatsoever. Under these circumstances, it would be possible for the pills to get into wrong channels, and enable something to be done which the Act was intended to prevent. On the first two charges against Henry Gamble there would be a fine of £3/3/- and £2/2/- costs in each case, and in the case of Aubrey H. Gamble the fine would be £3/3/-, with £2/2/- costs, making a total of fines, £9/9/-, and £6/6/- costs. The third charge against Henry Gamble was withdrawn.

A Dentist Struck Off.

On March 7th the Dental Board heard a charge of infamous conduct in a professional sense against Seymour Spiller. The charge was that he acted as the managing director of "The National Dentistry Limited," and assisted them in the conducting of such business contrary to the provisions of Section 12 (a) of the Dentists Act, 1912. Evidence was given that defendant acted in the capacity of an employee of the said company, which was duly registered. For the defence it was contended that the information disclosed no offence. The business was fully conducted by Spiller, assisted by qualified dentists. He was to receive £7 per week and 5 per cent. of the profits. Defendant called no witnesses, and it was contended on his behalf that the whole matter was a question as to whether it was unprofessional conduct for a dentist to hire his service to an employer. The Board found the charge proven and ordered defendant's name to be struck off the register. It is expected that the de-registered dentist will appeal and that the Board's decision will be reversed. This is, in fact, a test case as to the powers and position of the Board in such cases.

Selling Poisons—Newcastle Grocers Fined.

On February 21, at the Newcastle police court, six storekeepers were proceeded against for breaches of the Poisons Act. N. M. Miller, an inspector under the Pharmacy Board, said that twelve months ago Newcastle was canvassed, and as a result there were eight prosecutions, and since then each of the present defendants had been warned. The trade journals and the daily papers had issued warnings against selling poisons without a certificate and not providing labels.

Mr. T. A. Braye, who appeared for some of the defendants, said the prosecutions were in the interests of the chemists.

Mr. Miller said they were in the interests of the public.

Six defendants were each fined £5, with costs and expenses for selling poison without a certificate; two were fined £3 on each of two charges, and one £3 on one charge of not labelling vessels containing poison. The poisons consisted mostly of disinfectant preparations.

The fines, costs of court, and expenses totalled £57/9/-.

Sale of Vermin Killers.

On February 28th, at the District Appeal Court, Sydney, an important decision was given by Judge Docker in the case of Moran & Cato versus Miller. This was an appeal against a magistrate's decision in which Messrs. Moran & Cato were fined for selling a bottle of disinfectant to Miller, who is an inspector under the Poisons Act. The inspector purchased a bottle of disinfectant, but he was supplied with a disinfectant labelled "for the destruction of vermin," and the magistrate ruled that this was merely an evasion of the Poisons Act and fined the defendants. On appeal the Judge reversed the magistrate's decision, and stated that the article was a package within the meaning of the Act; it was labelled "for the destruction of vermin." No doubt it would kill vermin. Bacteria and microbes were vermin as well as animals of a larger growth. He held that articles for the destruction of vermin, when distinctly labelled as such, are exempt from the operations of the Poisons Act. This is a very serious decision, and it is understood that in view of it, the Crown Law Department will not sanction any further prosecutions in cases of a like character.

A Herbalist Prosecuted.

At the Redfern (N.S.W.) Police Court on February 28th, Reuben Thomas Pitt, described as a medical herbalist, was charged before Mr. Burton Smith, S.M., with unlawfully selling a quantity of drugs for a certain purpose on January 21st. He was also charged with not complying with the regulation requiring every person who advertised that they treat disease to state their name in full; also with being a person purporting to be but not being the person whose name was stated in the advertisement, and treating disease at a house mentioned in the advertisement. On the first charge he was committed for trial, on the second charge he was fined £1 and costs, and the third information was withdrawn.

Among herbalists in Sydney there are two classes—the ethical herbalist and the "eclectics," or persons whose practice is open to suspicion. It is generally believed that abortion drugs are commonly sold by the latter, and this prosecution is the first of a movement to suppress the practice.

War Notes.

Death of Lieutenant Harry Matheson.

The death occurred in Palestine on Christmas Day, 1917, of Lieut. H. M. Matheson, of the Royal Flying Corps. Lieut. Matheson, in his younger days, was an assistant to Mr. F. H. Cooper, chemist, of Maffra. He afterwards went to the pharmacy of Mr. Victor Say, Benalla, and was engaged as Mr. Say's assistant when war broke out. In 1914 young Matheson enlisted and embarked with one of the first contingents. On the voyage to Egypt he was placed in charge of a dispensary under Colonel Dr. Ryan. His department was a model of cleanliness and system, so much so that the medical officers of other vessels were shown his work as an example of how things should be done. When he reached Suez he was promoted, in recognition of his work on the transport. He went to Gallipoli, where he remained for nine months. After the evacuation, he was for a short time in Egypt, from whence he was transferred to France, arriving there in the spring of 1916. His work at that time was despatch riding. He had some very narrow escapes, but never met with any serious mishap. He was then granted furlough, and whilst in London decided to apply for admission to the Royal Flying Corps, for which, he was informed, a few vacancies were open. In November, 1916, he forwarded his application, and out of 200 applicants, he was one of the successful twenty. After completing his training, he was sent to Egypt, and subsequently he joined the British forces in Palestine. On Christmas Eve he went out in his aeroplane in a terrific storm, and on the following day his body was found a mile or two away from the camp. An inquest was held, and a verdict brought in of death from exposure. When the news of his death reached Maffra (Lieut. Matheson's native town) flags at the Shire Hall and the State School were flown at half-mast, and the local cadets were assembled and the "Last Post" sounded. Mr. W. McCall Say writes that Harry Matheson was a lad of strong personality, and of considerable initiative. He was of a quiet, unassuming and courteous disposition, and, above all, a sterling friend. His death is deeply deplored by all who knew him.

General.

Mr. J. H. Young, Adelaide (late Registrar of the Pharmacy Board of S.A.), has received word that his son, Private Ray M. Young, of the 14th Field Ambulance, who was wounded in September last, is to return to Australia shortly.

Mr. P. R. Magarey (a director of Birks, Chemists, Adelaide) who left for active service nearly three years ago, has been gazetted as a lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps.

Lieut. Fred. N. Grimwade, of the Royal Flying Corps, has been granted nine months' leave of absence, and will probably sail for Australia next month. Lieutenant Grimwade was wounded and taken prisoner when on duty near Ypres in April, 1916. After treatment in a German field hospital at Courtrai, Belgium, he was sent to Hanover, and thence to Clausthal in the Hartz Mountains. Lieutenant Grimwade was court-martialled at Mannheim, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in a fortress. After serving four months at Wesel he was unexpectedly sent to Switzerland where he was operated on by the late Professor Kocher in May of last year, and in September reached England.

War Regulations.

Sheep and cattle dips, methylated spirits and oils of all kinds were declared "necessary commodities" under the War Precautions (Prices) Regulations by the Minister of Defence on February 15, 1918.

All persons who, on February 25, had stocks of phosphorus, strychnine, and rabbit poisons, in possession, under control, or in transit, required to furnish the Chief Prices Commissioner, Auditorium, Collins-street, Melbourne, on or before March 7, with particulars of same, under a Prices Regulation Order made on February 21.

Commissions for Pharmacists Abroad.

The following official announcements appeared in the "Commonwealth Gazette" of March 14th:—

Pharmaceutical Officers.

To be Honorary Lieutenants—

Staff Sergeant **Alfred Mercer Ramsey**, late No. 3 Australian Auxiliary Hospital, and is posted to No. 1 Dermatological Hospital (with seniority next after Honorary Lieutenant J. J. Boyers).

Staff Sergeant **Percy Rupert Magarey**, from Australian Base Medical Store, and is posted to No. 1 Australian Auxiliary Hospital.

Staff Sergeant **William Frederick Roff**, late No. 1 Australian Dermatological Hospital, and is posted to No. 2 Australian Auxiliary Hospital.

Warrant Officer (Class 1.) **Eric John Dunstan Pye**, from No. 5 Field Ambulance.

Staff-Sergeant **George Thomas Say**, from No. 14 Field Ambulance.

Staff-Sergeant **John Joseph Boyers**, from No. 1 Australian General Hospital.

Staff-Sergeant **Vincent Ryan Bellemey**, from No. 5 Field Ambulance.

Staff-Sergeant **Thomas William Longville**, from 5th Australian Divisional Base Depot, 1st December, 1917.

Anti-Boycotting Regulations—Price-Fixing Agreements Jeopardised.

Regulations under the War Precautions Act, gazetted on March 6, provide that any person who refuses to sell goods at fixed prices shall be guilty of an offence.

The chief object of the regulations is to prevent wholesale merchants from refusing to supply retailers who sell below the fixed prices. Instances have been given recently, particularly in

the flour trade, where millers declined to give a baker his usual supply because he was not charging the maximum price allowed by the law for his bread.

The chief clause in the regulations reads as follows:—

"Any person who has in his custody or under his control any foodstuff or necessary commodity in which he usually trades, in respect of which a maximum price has been fixed by or under these regulations, who refuses or fails on—

(a) demand of any quantity of the foodstuff or necessary commodity; and

(b) tender of payment at the price so fixed for the quantity demanded,

to supply such foodstuff or necessary commodity in the quantity demanded shall be guilty of an offence against the Act."

It is provided that in any prosecution it would be a sufficient defence to show that the defendant had supplied "a reasonable quantity," or had not sufficient to supply the demand and to satisfy all other contracts, and the ordinary requirements of his business. It will also be sufficient defence to show that the defendant is a wholesale trader in the foodstuff or necessary commodity in question, and that the person who demands to be supplied is not a retail trader therein.

In determining what is a "reasonable quantity," the regulations set out that regard shall be had to all the circumstances of the case, including the question whether the person who demands to be supplied is or is not, at the time of the demand, carrying on business as a retail trader in the foodstuff or necessary commodity demanded either alone or with other goods.

Any person carrying on a business in which the necessaries of life are usually sold or supplied, or who has been in the habit of selling or supplying the foodstuff or necessary commodity, is deemed usually to trade in the goods in question.

Further clauses in the regulation provide that declarations of secrecy shall forthwith be made by all officers at present employed in connection with the Price Fixing Regulations, and by every person proposed to be employed before entering upon his duties. Any officer who divulges official information is guilty of an offence. Power is given to the Prices Board and each Commissioner to impound or retain documents, books, and papers produced or inspected.

So far as the regulations extend at present infants' and invalids' foods are the principal lines affected which are sold by pharmacists. As further articles are made the subject of price regulation they automatically come within the purview of these regulations. Organisations such as the P.A.T.A. will be affected more or less as the list of price-regulated articles is increased. This aspect of the case is discussed editorially.

Meeting of Chemists

On Thursday, March 14, a meeting was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, to discuss the position, when the following were present:—Mr. A. R. Bailey, President of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference; Mr. H. D. B. Cox (Sydney), President of the P.A.T.A. of New South Wales; Mr. H. B. Taylor, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia; Mr. F. Buckhurst, Chairman of the P.D.L.; Mr. W. H. MacLennan, Secretary of the P.A.T.A. of Victoria; and Mr. C. L. Butchers, General Secretary of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference. An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. J. F. Hughes, President of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association. Mr. Cox was voted to the chair, on the motion of Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Buckhurst.

The position created by the Government price-fixing regulations was carefully considered from all aspects, and it was eventually decided that Messrs. Cox and Butchers should draw up a statement of the position as it affected pharmacists, particularly with regard to the rate of profit allowed, and that all those represented at the meeting should sign it. It was left in Mr. Cox's hands to present this to the Chief Federal Prices Commissioner.

The meeting then adjourned.

Food & Drugs.

Quack Medicines and Appliances.

The Director-General of Public Health in New South Wales in his annual report states that special attention has been directed to advertised medical preparations and appliances. In some cases large businesses of a nefarious character had grown up, as a result of an extensive advertising of nostrums and appliances, which were often harmful, usually worthless, and always misleading and dangerous. Proceedings were taken against proprietors of patent medicines for which exaggerated claims were made, or the contents of which were falsely described. Two wholesale drug stores were each fined £10 and costs for selling a preparation called Vitadatio. The Ozonia Company was fined £20 and costs for selling Ozonia, a preparation of no medicinal value and of small monetary value. The Department seized 36,000 bottles and destroyed their contents. An unqualified practitioner was prosecuted for using the description "Medical Specialist," and was fined £50, with the option of going to prison for four months.

Victorian Foods Standard Committee.

At a meeting of the Victorian Foods Standard Committee, held on March 5, the question of fixing a standard for medicated wines was under consideration in pursuance of a communication received from the Pharmaceutical Society asking that some such step might be taken. The matter was discussed at considerable length. The Committee, however, found great difficulty in ar-

riving at anything like a practicable standard. A unanimous opinion was expressed in favour of regulating the sale of these wines. Eventually it was decided to defer consideration for the time being, and to remit the matter to the Excise Department for further attention.

Another question dealt with related to the regulation requiring the labelling of proprietary drugs and medicines with the net weight, volume or contents. Representations were received from several wholesale firms, asking that these conditions might be relaxed, at least during the currency of the war. The Committee decided that it could see no reason why medicines should be exempted when similar requirements were compulsory in the case of foods. It was therefore decided to make no alteration in the regulation.

A communication from the South Australian Pharmacy Board was received, suggesting that all preparations containing sugar and glycerine should be omitted from the Pharmacopoeia, as had been done in Great Britain. The Committee considered that as there was no real shortage of sugar and glycerine in Australia, the conditions were entirely different to those obtaining in Great Britain, where these articles were almost unobtainable. In any case provision existed in Victoria under the Medical Act for gazetting any necessary alterations in the Pharmacopoeia, but before such alterations were accepted by the Government it was customary to ask the opinion of the Pharmacy Board theron. Mr. Bailey said that the matter had not yet come before the Pharmacy Board, and he did not think any necessity had yet arisen for altering the present conditions. The Committee decided that the matter was not one within its jurisdiction, and it could therefore take no action in reference thereto.

Early Closing.

Wages Board Determination and Dispensaries Closing Hours.

In order to meet the requirements of the Dispensaries' Wages Board Award, which fixed the working hours of dispensaries at 44 per week, the Melbourne U.F.S. Dispensary has notified its members that on and after March 1, 1918, the hours of attendance will be as follow:—

BOWEN ST. DISPENSARY.—Mondays to Fridays, open 10 a.m., close 7 p.m. Saturdays, open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. only.

SUNDAYS and HOLIDAYS, 10 a.m. to 12 noon only.

NORTH CARLTON and NORTH MELBOURNE DISPENSARIES.—Mondays to Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SATURDAYS, 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. only.

SUNDAYS and HOLIDAYS, 10 a.m. to 12 noon only.

Wages Boards.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Log of Claims Submitted to the Master Pharmacists by the Chemists Section of the Shop Assistants' Union of N.S.W.

1. *Hours.*—The hours to constitute the week's work shall not exceed 48 per working week, and shall be worked between the hours of 8.30 a.m., 6 p.m., on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and 8.30 a.m., 8 p.m., on Friday, and 8.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday The fact of a public holiday or holidays occurring in the course of a week's work shall not alter the starting or finishing times hereinbefore set out.

2. *Wages.*—The minimum weekly wage shall not be less than as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
At 22 years, with three years' experience	90/-	Equal Pay
21 years	80/-	„ „
20 years	70/-	„ „
19 years	60/-	„ „
18 years	50/-	„ „
17 years	40/-	„ „
16 years	30/-	„ „
15 years	22/6	„ „
14 years	17/6	„ „

Apprentices.—First year, 15/-; second year, 25/-; third year, 35/-.

Manager.—Shop Assistants in charge of a shop or branch shop or dispensary with or without the duty of buying, 120/-.

Chief Assistant.—Shop Assistant employed in a shop or dispensary where two or more assistants are employed, other than the manager or employer, and who ranks next in position to the manager or to the proprietor, who superintends his own shop, 100/-.

Registered Assistant.—Assistants registered under the Pharmacy Act, 100/-.

3. *Casual Employees.*—Any employee engaged for less than one week shall be paid not less than 3/6 per hour, or part thereof. Minimum payment, 30/- for any day or part thereof.

4. *Broken Time.*—All broken time, with the exception of one hour for each meal, shall be counted as time worked.

5. *Overtime.*—All time worked in excess of the aforesaid 48 hours or before the aforesaid starting time, or after the finishing times shall be paid for at the rate of time and half, based on the wages actually received on the 48 hours' basis. All work done after 6 o'clock, 2/6 tea money to be paid.

6. *Sunday and Holidays.*—Any work done on any Sunday or any gazetted public holiday, or day observed as such shall be paid for at the rate of double time, in addition to the weekly wages hereinbefore provided.

7. *Meal Times.*—One hour shall be allowed for each meal. If an employee is required to be on

duty or at call during any portion of the meal hour, he shall be paid an extra hour's pay at the rate of ordinary time, and such meal hour shall count as part of the aforesaid 48 hours to constitute the week's work.

8. *Annual Holidays.*—All the employees, on the completion of twelve months' service, shall be given two weeks' holiday on full pay. Any employee being discharged or leaving after six months' service shall be paid pro rata according to the length of service.

9. *Proportion to Apprentices and Improvers.*—One apprentice or improver to one other assistant may be employed. For the purpose of this clause, an employer actively engaged in the business may be reckoned as an assistant.

10. *Preference to Unionists.*—As persons offering their labour at the same time, preference of employment shall be given to members of the Shop Assistants and Warehouse Employees' Federation of Australia, N.S.W. Branch.

11. *Termination of Engagement.*—One week's notice shall be given by either side to terminate the engagement. Upon the termination of such notice the employer or his manager shall give the employee a certificate in writing stating the length of service and position held.

12. *Payment of Wages and Overtime.*—All wages shall be paid weekly on Thursday, and shall be paid up and including the day of payment, and shall be in addition to any bonus or commission the employer may choose to pay.

13. *Resident Employees.*—Where it is a term of employment that an employee shall reside on the premises of his employer, such dwelling accommodation shall be free, and if such employee is required to answer the door bell before the aforesaid starting or after the finishing time set out, he shall be paid 20/- per week, in addition to the weekly wages hereinbefore set out.

14. *Any Assistants Relieving.*—Any assistant relieving another of higher grade shall be paid the higher rate during the time so employed.

15. *Area of Award.*—This Award shall apply throughout New South Wales, excepting the County of Yancowinna.

Meeting of Hospital and Dispensary Dispensers.

A well attended meeting of the newly-formed Victorian Association of Chemists employed in Hospitals and Dispensaries, was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on Thursday evening, March 14th, when the following rules and regulations were adopted, on the motion of Mr. R. E. Holdsworth, seconded by Mr. J. Smart:—

Name.—Victorian Association of Chemists employed in Dispensaries and Hospitals.

Object.—For improvement of conditions of members.

Membership.—Open to anyone employed dispensing in Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Subscription.—2/6 per annum.

Officers.—President, Mr. A. Andrews; Sec. and Treas., Mr. W. H. Ware; Executive Committee, Miss McDonough, Mr. J. G. Fox, Mr. A. J. B. Haldane. Annual Meeting in October. Secretary's Address—4 Davis-street, Newport.

The chairman (Mr. A. Andrews) said that reports were received from several places where the wages board award was in operation, stating that little or no friction had occurred since the award became operative on March 1. The meeting considered that 6 o'clock was a reasonable hour at which dispensaries should close, and it was therefore decided to move in the matter.

Meeting of Registered Assistants.

There was a large attendance of chemists' assistants, including several ladies, at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on Wednesday evening, March 13, when the proposed log before the Chemists' Wages Board was further considered. Mr. F. S. T. Sare presided. The principal matter discussed was the question of hours. It was eventually unanimously decided that the employees' representatives be instructed to strongly advocate that the times of starting and ceasing work should be as follows:—

Mondays to Thursdays, inclusive, 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fridays, 8.30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturdays, 8.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sundays, two hours (alternate Sundays).

It was reported that the Factories Officer had advised that the Wages Board had full powers to differentiate between registered and unregistered assistants.

At 10.30 p.m. the meeting adjourned to a later date.

Chemists' Board.

The decisions arrived at by the Chemists' Shops Board so far are as follow:—

Hours.—51 per week, to be worked between 8.30 a.m. and the legal hour of closing.

Apprentices.—Wages (per week): 10/- for the first year, 15/- for the second year, 20/- for the third year, and 25/- for the fourth year. Proportion: One apprentice to the employer, and one additional for each adult employee receiving full pay.

The Board met on February 19. Wages were discussed at considerable length, but no agreement on the principal issue was arrived at. The wages for improvers (persons under 21 years of age, who are not apprentices) were fixed as follows:—

Age.	Per week.
17	30/-
18	35/-
19	40/-
20	45/-

One improver only to be employed for the first ten adult employees.

The Board adjourned to February 26th.

Trade & Commerce.

Poison for Rabbit Destruction Not Sold by State.

The Victorian Chief Inspector for Vermin Destruction has publicly intimated that his department does not sell poison to landowners for rabbit destruction. Stocks of phosphorus and strychnine were held by the Department for the purpose of destroying rabbits on Crown lands and on private lands where the owners disregarded the Act. Chemists would supply poison if orders were forwarded to them. He had seen an advertisement in a Bendigo paper in which a chemist offered to sell strychnine at 10/6 an ounce.

Destroying Noxious Weeds.

Some experiments carried out by Mr. Donald Clark on the poisoning of blackberries and Canadian or Californian thistle were described at a recent meeting of the Institute of Victorian Industries. Arsenious chloride, diluted with mineral oil, was sprayed from a special vessel over the noxious plant. With strong solutions the plants withered at once, and could be burnt off in from 24 to 72 hours. Mixtures containing only one-eighth of the chloride acted more slowly, but were just as fatal to the growing plant. After a few days the roots of the Californian or perennial thistle were dug up. The taproot was found to be dead, and the runners were also dead for some considerable distance. The experiments were very promising, but more than a single application would be necessary. The main advantage of destroying or keeping under the blackberry by this means was that a man could deal with a large area in a short time. The present cost of arsenious chloride is about 9d. per lb., but the dilution with cheap mineral oil brings it within the range of practical use.

Duty on Artificial Teeth.

The Customs Department is claiming 40 per cent ad. val. duty on some varieties of artificial teeth. The reason stated for the imposition of this duty is that there is a trace of gold in some of the pins of the teeth. Owing to the scarcity of platinum manufacturers are now using alloys containing gold. A deputation waited upon the Minister of Customs, and asked him to rectify the anomaly, but an unfavourably reply was received. Further action by the dental organisation is now contemplated.

Encouraging Alkali Manufacture.

With the object of placing before him the opportunity which exists for the establishment in South Australia and other States of the alkali industry, a number of those interested in the industries associated with it met Mr. W. M. Hughes, the Prime Minister, in conference on February 28, and received a promise that the Government would assist in encouraging the industry in every reasonable way. The conference included chemists, lime, soap and soda manufacturers, and others from the States where the conditions exist which are most likely to allow the alkali industry to be profitably established, and a long discussion took place.

Mr. Hughes, at the close of the conference, stated that the shortage of soda ash and caustic soda was threatening many industries in the Commonwealth. As there was a grave probability of this shortage becoming acute, it was agreed to appoint a committee to consider the best means of meeting the situation.

Grocers Demand 20 per cent. "on Returns."

The Federation of Retail Grocers' Association, at its first Interstate Conference, held in Melbourne on March 7, decided that, under existing industrial conditions, the average grocer required a profit of 20 per cent. "on returns" on his total turnover to pay his way. In moving a motion to this effect, Mr. E. F. New, of Sydney, said the conditions that had obtained in the retail grocery trade during the last few years, consequent upon the restrictions placed upon the trader, and the expenses caused through restrictive enactments, had increased his expenses to such an extent that nothing less than 20 per cent. would ensure his solvency. The people of Australia had, through their Parliament, decided upon the industrial conditions which had meant increased remuneration for the services rendered, and those bodies had set it down that the services rendered should be paid for at what was known as a living rate. As traders, they had a right to say that as the community had decided that the employe should not be sweated, so they, too, in their services to the public, had a right to say that they were not to be sweated. As the community had set up that standard which entailed extra expense, it was not fair for them to ask the retail trader to render his services to the community at anything less than a standard which had been acknowledged as being the living rate of wage. The 20 per cent. which was set down was only a fair and equitable plane, which ensured the community against undue exploitation, and they considered it to be a reasonable and a fair standard, at the present grave time, at which to determine the rate of profit for the retail grocery trade.

Grocers' Federation State Trading Conditions.

At the recent Interstate Conference of the Federation of Retail Grocers, the following resolutions were carried:—

(1) That the Federation urges all State Associations to do their utmost to substitute profitable lines for goods which, through Government interference or any other cause, fail to show a gross profit of at least 20 per cent. on returns.

(2) In order to simplify the fixing of retail prices the Federation considers that in lieu of

fixing wholesale prices at 10 per cent. advance on landed costs, standard wholesale prices should be named at which the majority of retailers can purchase.

(3) That it be a recommendation from the Federation to all State associations to define the position of all merchants and manufacturers, with a view to preference being accorded to those who confine themselves strictly to wholesale sales. Wholesale sales to be deemed to refer to sales to persons for the purpose of re-sale.

Trade Notes.

"Wellcome" "Photographic Exposure Record and Diary, 1918."

A feature which will at once appeal to the Australian purchaser of the new edition of this popular annual is the fine photograph of a German shell bursting behind the Anzac lines at the battle of Messines. This was taken by the official Australian photographer, Herbert A. Baldwin, and the negative was developed on the spot with "Tancol," one of the Imperial products with which Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. are replacing enemy-made developers. As for the book itself its good features are maintained. The main article has been entirely re-written, and under the title "Photography Simplified," the whole art of successful photographic practice is dealt with. The great charm of the book is its simplicity. The instructions given are so definite that no one can mistake them. Ready reference tables for development, printing, enlarging, focussing, etc., are a feature in this pocket book. The little mechanical calculator fixed to the back cover tells the correct exposure by one turn of one scale and that alone is worth the small sum of eighteenpence, postage threepence extra, for which it may be obtained.

Trade Pulling Windows.

A druggist whose window displays are reproduced oftener, perhaps, than those of any other druggist in the country, gives the following ten rules for preparing a window so that it will pull trade, says *System Magazine*:

1. Have window glass so clean it sparkles. For permanent lettering on outside use bronze with black.

2. See that floor, sidewalks and back present a fresh, wholesome appearance. Omit all posters that are not part of the display.

3. Display one thing at a time, or things of a similar nature, like hair brushes and combs, or soaps and toilet water. If two or more articles are shown, separate them.

4. Make displays seasonable. Place samples in window and distribute over counter.

5. Don't overcrowd; practice reserve. Some goods permit lavish display—perfume, for example. Talcum is also suitable for a "quantity window." When in doubt choose simplicity.

6. Have a colour scheme. If castile soap is displayed, plainly, white ought to prevail; with other goods frequently harmonious colours can be used. A window of vaseline looks very well with a background of blue.

7. Use leaders—for the same reason that one would use them in a special sale—to get immediate action.

8. Post price lists or use cards wherever prices are as low or lower than in other stores.

9. Change displays weekly.

10. Make displays simultaneous with announcements of advertisers.

Trade Mark Applications.

Class 2.—Chemical Substances, Disinfectants, &c.

Klaro.—William Adams and Co., Ltd., 175 Clarence-street, Sydney, merchants and importers.

Soaperine (Soluble Disinfectant, Deodorant Soap).—Mabel Sarah Hyland, 675 Victoria-street, Abbotsford.

Harco.—Geo. P. Harris, Scarfe and Co. Ltd., Gawler-place, Adelaide, South Australia, Merchant.

Kresapo (Disinfectants. — Duerdin and Sainsbury, 349, Flinders-street, Melbourne.

Class 3.—Chemicals used in Medicine and Pharmacy.—

Rika.—John Lang, 88 Islington-st., Collingwood, Melbourne, Trustee.

Jones' Rheumaticuro.—Percy Samuel Flegg, trading as Graham Remedies Co., Cape Town, South Africa.

Distinctive Design.—Victor Aubrey Wawn, 186 George-street, North Sydney, Chemist.

Calyp.—Gillard Gordon Ltd., 13 Bridge-street, New South Wales, manufacturers.

Class 4.—Perfumery, Soaps, Toilet Articles, &c.

Jonteel.—United Drug Co., Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., Merchants.

Market Reports.

Messrs. Elliott Bros., Ltd., Sydney, in their March report state that business during the month of February is usually quiet, but the past month has been well up to the average. There is a tendency to lay in winter stock early, as a long and a sharp winter is anticipated. It is anticipated that all important lines will advance, if more shipping space is not available in the near future.

Gum Opium has advanced to 9s. per oz.

Cinchona Bark (pale, yellow and red) has advanced to 3s. 6d. per lb. Powdered bark is 4s. per lb.

Balsam Copaiba is 7s. 6d. per lb. Oil of carraway is 2s. 3d. per oz., or 32s. per lb.

Valerian Root is 5s. 6d. per lb.; pulv., 6s. **Senega Root**, 6s. 6d. per lb.; pulv., 7s. per lb.

Licorice Root (decorticated) has recently risen from 1s. 9d. per lb. to 3s. per lb.; pulv., 3s. 3d.

Camomile Flowers are 6s. 6d. per lb.

Castor Oil E.I. is 8s. 6d. per gallon.

Olive Oil has advanced. South Australian, 28s. per gallon, 4 gallons 26s.; French and Italian, 30s., 4 gallons 28s.

Bismuth Preparations are advancing. Carbonate (B.P.), 17s. per lb.; Howard's, 18s.; Liq. Bismuthi, Howard's, 4s. per lb.; Schacht's, 6s. per lb.

Soda Tartarata is 2s. 6d. per lb., 2s. 1d. by the jar.

Benzoic Acid is 3s. 6d. per oz., or 19s. per lb.

Salol has fallen to 1s. 9d. per oz., or 24s. per lb. Acetyl-salicylic acid is also lower: 1s. 9d. per oz., or 24s. per lb.

Resorcin has fallen to 7s. per oz.; a drop of 2s. 6d.

Spice Goods are rising. Jamaica ginger is 2s. 3d. per lb.; pulv., 2s. 6d. Cummin seed is 2s. 3d. per lb.

Metal Screw-capped Bottles, Silicated Boxes and Homoeopathic Vial Boxes have advanced. This will affect the price of packed goods in these containers.

Carbolic Acid is dearer. Calvert's No. 5 half pints are 18s., pints 30s. per doz.

Seresol has advanced. No. 1, 6s. 6d.; No. 2, 10s. 6d. per doz.; 1 gall. tins, 9s. each; 5 gall. drums, 40s. each.

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co., Melbourne, advise the following alterations in prices:

DRUGS, &c.

Acetic Anhydride, 26s. lb.
Ammon. Bromid., 10s. lb.
Chloroform, B.P. and Smith's, 6s. lb.
Cocaina, B.P., Howard's, 65s. oz.
Eau de Cologne, 30s. gal.
Essence Almonds, 8s. lb.
Guaiacol Carb., 12s. 6d. oz.
Hydrarg. Ammoniat., 13s. lb.
Infus. Buchu, conc., 5s. 3d. lb.
Liquor Bismuthi Ammon. Cit., A.P.F., 3s. 6d. lb.
Liquor Buchu, pro Infusion, 10s. lb.
Liquor Ferri Phos. Co., 1-3, 2s. 3d. lb.
Liquor Gent. Co., pro Tincture, 8s. lb.
Ol. Ricini, 2s. lb.
Petroleum Jelly, yellow, in tins, about 34 lbs., 8½d. lb.
Potassii Bitart., 3s. 9d. lb.; cwt. lots, 3s. 6d. lb.
Potassii Bromid, 12s. lb.
Potassii Chlorate, C.P., 5s. 6d. lb.
Potassii Sulphate, C.P., 4s. 6d. lb.
Sodii Bicarb., C.P., 2s. 6d. lb.
Sodii Bromid., 8s. lb.
Stearn's Fl. Ext. Cascara, 7s. 6d. lb.
S.V. Meth (fixed prices)—
Small lots, 3s. gal.
5-gal. lots (jars charged), 2s. 9d. gal.
Tabellae Phenacetin, gr. 5, 7/6s. lb.
Thymol, 5s. oz.
Tinct. Arnicae, 7s. lb.
Tinct. Benzoin. Co., B.P., 7s. lb.
Tinct. Opii, B.P., 14s. lb.
Vaseline, white, 1-lb. tins, 2s. 9d. lb.
Vaseline, white, 5-lb. tins, 2s. 1d. lb.

SUNDRIES.

B.F.X. Tonic Wine, No. 1., 48s. doz.
B.F.X. Tonic Wine, No. 2, 33s. doz.
Bottles, W.M., ball stoppered, 2 oz., 2s. 9d. doz.; 30s. gross.

Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. advise an advance of 10 per cent. on general goods, except Sera, Vaccines, and Tuberculins, Fairchild's Preparations, Chemicals, and "Kharsivan."

Cotton Waste, 1s. lb.
Edwards' Harlene, No. 1, 21s. doz.
Edwards' Harlene, No. 2, 50s. doz.
Eno's Fruit Salts, 39s. doz.
Evans' Pastilles, 16s. doz.
Feeders, Anti-corrosive, Maw's, 24s. doz.
Fosfa, 27s. doz., less 20 per cent. trade discount.
Health Feeders, 12s. 6d. doz.
Laxo-Tonic Pills, No. 1., 9s. 6d. doz.
Laxo-Tonic Pills, No. 2., 19s. doz.
Lint—
No. 000, 4s. 6d. lb.
Plain or borated, Johnson & Johnson's, or Seabury & Johnson's, 1-lb. pkts., 5s. lb.; 8-oz. pkts., 3s. 3d. lb.; 4 oz. pkts., 2s. 6d. lb.
Liquid Malt, in cartons, 22s. doz.
Mennen's Shaving Cream, 19s. doz.
Mennen's Talcum Powder, 11s. 6d. doz.
Mentholatum, 12s. doz.
Morton's Seidlitz Powders, 16s. 6d. doz.
Murdock's Liquid Food, 28s. doz.
Nestle's Food, 25s. doz.
Oppenheimer's Goods, surcharge on, increased to 15 per cent.
Parrish's Syrup, No. 3, 18s. doz.
Roger & Gallet's Vera Violette Soap, 48s. doz.
Scrubb's Ammonia, 12s. 6d. doz.
Sigma Superfatted Soap, 5s. 6d. doz.
Tinct. Arnicae, 1 oz., 9s. doz.
"Trident" Liquid Paraffin, 30s. doz.
"Trident" Phenacetin Tablets, 25's, 24s. doz.
Vibrona, 18s. doz.; case lots, 46s. doz.
Williams' Shaving Powder, 16s. doz.
Williams' Talcum Powder, 12s. 6d. doz.
Yardley's Cologne, 2 oz., 17s. 6d. doz.; 4 oz., 30s., doz.
Zinc Ointment, 1-oz. tins, 4s. doz.

Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt & Co., Melbourne, report as follows:—

Oil of Cloves is at present worth 20s.

Bromide of Potassium is selling in London at the rates ruling here, and it is only a matter of time before the local price will have to be increased.

Strychnine.—Prices are certain to be further advanced in the near future.

Collapsible Tubes.—The embargo on the export of tubes from the United States has led to a considerable local demand for tooth paste and lanoline tubes, which is causing a shortage in supplies.

Methylated and Rectified Spirits.—Supplies are still arriving only in small quantities, and the wholesale houses are finding it necessary to conserve their stocks as much as possible.

Personal & Business.

Properly authenticated paragraphs, preferably sent by the persons interested, are inserted under this heading

VICTORIA.

Mr. J. Bell has gone to Mr. R. McMullin, Horsham.

Mr. E. Plummer is relieving Mr. James Blackie, of Euroa.

Mr. M. F. Nugent is with Mr. H. W. Wheeler, of Colac.

Mr. F. J. Chamberlin is relieving Mr. C. H. Flack, of Oakleigh.

Mr. A. J. Swann, of Fiji, and his wife are in Melbourne on a visit.

Miss H. E. Jacobson is relieving Mr. Max Landmann, of Auburn.

Mr. W. L. Treen has been relieving Mr. Charles Ekins, Heidelberg.

Mr. J. B. Barker has accepted a position at Mr. H. L. Hastings' pharmacy, Stawell.

Mr. J. A. Kay is acting as locum tenens for Mr. B. Wilks, Yackandandah, for a month.

Mr. R. J. Roche is relieving Mr. G. T. Le Couteur, Glenferrie, at the end of the month.

Mr. J. A. Kay, after relieving Mr. B. J. Wilks, Yackandandah, goes on to Mr. H. C. Clarkson, Brunswick.

Mr. A. E. Pulling has accepted a position at Dr. W. Maloney's dispensary, Elizabeth-st., Melbourne.

Mr. Pierce Butler has been managing Mr. W. London's business at Sandringham, but has now returned to Bendigo.

Mr. D. Shaw has been relieving Mr. W. J. Williams, East Melbourne, and at Easter relieves Mr. E. Bissett, Glenferrie.

Mr. Gavin Robertson, who has been relieving in Queensland for the past 12 months, has accepted a position with Messrs. Lewis and Co., Brighton.

Mr. Frank L. Marcy, manager for Messrs. Frederick Stearns and Co., Sydney, passed

through Melbourne on March 11th on his way to Tasmania..

Mr. E. E. Malyon, of Ballarat, spent a fortnight's holiday in Tasmania last month. During his absence Mr. J. Hetherington looked after his business.

Miss Ruby Cruise is relieving Miss Dorothy Murphy at the Queen Victoria Hospital, and goes on to Mrs. Bignell at the end of the month for a fortnight.

Mr. Norton Grimwade has received a cable message informing him that his son, Mr. Lionel C. Grimwade, has been gazetted a full lieutenant in the Royal Navy.

Mr. E. Charles, after relieving Mr. A. W. F. Vale, Brunswick, goes on to Mr. J. Barnes, Horsham, Mr. A. J. Jenkins, Mansfield, and Messrs. J. Black and Sons, Collingwood.

Mr. T. A. Dickson, Geelong, suffered considerable loss on March 13th owing to the flooding of a basement in his pharmacy during a severe storm which occurred on that date.

Mr. Eric E. Morris, of Sydney and Melbourne, left during the month for an extended trip to America and England. He will spend the greater part of his time in New York and London.

Mr. W. M. Jewkes, Essendon, a member of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the central Bailiwick. A similar honour has been conferred upon Mr. H. B. Taylor, Richmond, vice-president of the Pharmaceutical Society.

New Insolvent.—Ronald Tempest Southee, of Albert-rd., South Melbourne, chemist's assistant. Causes of insolvency—Inability to meet debts and engagements owing to an adverse judgment in an action for damages. Liabilities, £386; assets, 10/-; deficiency, £385/10/-.

Prahran Dispensary.—At the February meeting of the St. Kilda branch of the A.N.A. the Dispensary delegates reported that in order to meet the extra expenditure caused by the Dispensaries Wages Board award, the Prahran Dispensary has found it necessary to increase its quarterly levy from 1/10 to 2/-.

Mr. C. Gadcke, Brunswick-street, Fitzroy, has disposed of his business to Mr. S. A. Burrows, who is well known to Victorian pharmacists as the Melbourne representative of a Sydney manufacturing firm. Mr. Gadcke, after having been connected actively with pharmacy for 54 years, is retiring from business.

Mr. H. D. B. Cox, chairman of the P.A.T.A. and the P.D.L. of New South Wales, arrived in Melbourne on March 2 on a business and health visit combined. He was met on arrival at Spencer-street by Mr. C. L. Butchers, and was entertained by Mr. F. Buckhurst and others during his stay. Mr. Cox attended the annual meetings of the Pharmacuetical Society and the P.A.T.A., and occupied the chair at a conference of pharmaceutical leaders to discuss the Federal Price Fixing Regulations. On March 18 he was present at the monthly meeting of the Pharmacy Board, and afterwards had lunch with the members.

Obituary.—The death is reported of Mr. W. J. Balmer, formerly manager of Mr. A. W. Aumont's branch pharmacy, Collingwood. Mr. Balmer qualified in Ireland in 1913, and was registered in Victoria on his Irish diploma in March, 1915. Mr. Arthur C. Lewis, late of Warragul, died on March 6th, after a fairly long illness. He had been managing Mr. J. F. Hughes' pharmacy, Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, for some time. Mr. Lewis was a brother of Mr. E. J. Lewis, of Messrs. Lewis and O'Donnell, and a son of Mr. Geo. Lewis, one of the members of the original Pharmacy Board. Mr. Lewis was registered in August, 1877.

QUEENSLAND.

Mr. C. S. Spiers, of Beaudesart, is on a visit to Brisbane.

Mr. F. G. Skinner, of Row and Co., Rockhampton, is visiting Brisbane.

Mr. R. G. B. Rose has returned to Brisbane after a residence of over a year in Tasmania.

Mr. W. J. A. Maher, from Mr. W. A. Noble's pharmacy, Toowoomba, is visiting Rockhampton and Mount Morgan.

Miss L. Scowen, who relieved S. Sgt. H. Gard at the Brisbane Hospital, has returned to her home at Gympie.

Mr. C. E. Elliot, who was called suddenly to Melbourne on account of his mother's illness, has returned to Gympie.

Mr. J. Armitstead, of Warwick, has been spending a holiday at Redcliffe. When in Brisbane, he took the opportunity of calling at the College of Pharmacy.

S. Sergt. A. J. Wright recently passed through Brisbane on a visit to his home at Mackay. He has returned to Australia for a spell after doing his bit in Egypt, Gallipoli and France.

Colonel Sutton, who was P.M.O. of the first Military District when war broke out, when he was accepted for active service, has returned to Brisbane, and has taken up his former duties as P.M.O.

Movements of Assistants.—Mr. Wm. Harris has received a temporary appointment of dispenser at H. M. Gaol, South Brisbane. Mr. R. Dev. O'Reilly has left Mr. Holyoake, of Mackay, and is now with Mr. L. A. Wilkinson, Brisbane. Mr. Markwell is now assistant with Mr. Ockleford, of Kingaroy. Mr. Evan James is relieving Mr. C. S. Spiers, of Beaudesart. Mr. Downey, registered in South Australia, is now with McGuffie and Co., Brisbane.

Death of Mrs. Park.—We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Park, wife of Mr. R. C. Park, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, who has been ailing for some time. Both the Pharmaceutical Society and the Pharmacy Board were well represented at the graveside. So were the local wholesale houses. Mr. Park has been in receipt of numerous letters of condolence from pharmaceutical friends. The chemists of Rockhampton were unable to attend, but they sent a wreath as a mark of esteem.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. D. Robb is now with Moore and Binks, Rose Park.

Mr. M. A. Moore and family, of Mile End, are staying at Henley Beach.

Mr. A. E. Hustler, Unley, last month spent a short holiday in Melbourne.

Mr. H. V. Moore and family, of Rose Park, are also at Henley on a holiday.

Mr. P. J. Evans, Chemist, of Parade, Norwood, has been to Victor Harbour on holiday.

Mr. Dorsett is now with S. Alexander Cooper and Co., of King William-st , Adelaide.

Mr. Mitchell, late of Mount Gambier, has begun duties with Mr. H. Henzenroder, of Jamestown.

Mr. H. D. Paul, who has been relieving Mr. H. Henzenroder, of Jamestown, who has been ill, has returned to the city.

Mr. A. Wilkinson, who has been on the sick list for some time, has resumed duties, and is now with Mr. J. B. Burden, of Henley Beach.

Masonic.

An interesting ceremony took place at Torrensville on the evening of February 18th, when the new Masonic Temple was solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Bro. Eustace B. Grundy, K.C., assisted by a large number of Grand Lodge Officers.

Mr. M. C. Moore, Chemist, of Mile End, is Worshipful Master of the Torrensville Lodge, and Mr. H. V. Moore, of Rose Park (Registrar of the Pharmacy Board, is a steward in this Lodge, and it is greatly due to the efforts of the Worshipful Master and other officers of the Lodge that the New Temple has been erected, which is the most up-to-date, and has more accommodation and convenience than any other Masonic Home in South Australia. Torrensville Lodge is one of the most popular in the State, and during its eight years of existence the membership has increased from 24 to over 130. Between 300 and 350 brethren assembled to witness the ceremony, and a large number afterwards attended the banquet which was held in the adjoining hall. The Worshipful Master (Bro. M. C. Moore proposed the health of the "Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers," which was responded to by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master. The usual toasts were also honored. Both instrumental and vocal music (supplied by members of Truth Lodge) was much appreciated, and added very considerably to the enjoyment of the evening. Mr. S. Alexander Cooper, Chemist, of Adelaide, contributed a solo, and assisted with a quartette; and as usual his efforts met with an enthusiastic reception. Bro. M. C. Moore received many congratulations upon the beauty of the lodge room and upon the success of the evening.

TASMANIA.

Mr. A. J. Williamson, late of Castlemaine (Vic.), has accepted an appointment at the Launceston U.F.S. Dispensary.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

March Examination Questions.

Preliminary Examination.

LATIN.—Time allowed: Three hours.

1. Translate either both the pieces from Caesar, or both from Virgil.

A.

Interea ea legione, quam secum habebat, militibusque, qui ex provincia convenerant, a lacu Lemanno, qui in flumen Rhodânum influit, ad montem Iuram, qui fines Sequanorum ab Helvetiis dividit, **milia** passuum decem novem murum in altitudinem pedum sedecim fossamque perducit. Eo opere perfecto praesidia disponit, castella communit, quo facilius, si se **invito** transire conarentur, prohibere possit. Ubi ea dies, quam constituerat cum legatis, venit, et legati ad eum reverterunt, negat se more et exemplo populi Romani posse iter **ulli** per provinciam dare et, si vim facere conentur, prohibiturum ostendit. Helvetii ea spe deiecti navibus iunctis ratibusque compluribus factis, alii vadis Rhodani, qua minima altitudo fluminis erat, nonnumquam interdiu, saepius noctu, si perrumpere possent **conati**, operis munitione et militum concursu et telis repulsi hoc conatu **destiterunt**.

B.

His Caesar ito **respondit**: **Eo** sibi minus dubitationis dari, quod eas res, quas legati Helvetii commemorassent, memoria teneret, atque eo gravius ferre, quo minus **merito** populi Romani accidissent: qui si alicuius iniuriae sibi conscius fuisset, non fuisse difficile cavere; sed eo **deceptum**, quod neque commissum a se intellegeret, quare timeret, neque sine causa **timendum** putaret. Quod si veteris contumeliae oblivisci vellet, num etiam recentium iniuriarum, quod eo invito iter per provinciam per vim temptassent, quod Aeduos, quod Ambarros, quod Allobrogas vexassent, memoriam deponere posse? Quod sua victoria tam insolenter gloriarentur, quodque tam diu se impune tulisse iniurias admirarentur, eodem pertinere. Consuesse enim deos immortales, quo gravius homines ex commutatione rerum **doleant**, quos pro scelere eorum ulcisci velint, his secundiores interdum res et diuturniorem impunitatem concedere.

C.

O socii,—neque enim ignari sumus **ante** malorum—
O **passi graviora, dabit** deus **his quoque finem.**
Vos et Scyllaeam rabiem penitusque sonantis
Accestis scopulos, vos et Cyclopia saxa
Experti: revocate animos, maestumque timorem
Mittite: forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit.
Per varios casus, per tot discrimina rerum
Tendimus in Latium, sedes ubi fata quietas
Ostendunt: illic fas regna resurgere Troiae.
Durate, et vosmet **rebus** servate secundis.
Talia voce refert, curisque ingentibus aeger
Spem vultu simulat, premit altum corde dolorem.

D.

Ipsa sed in somnis inhumati venit imago
Coniugis, ora modis attollens pallida miris;
Crudelis aras traiectaque pectora ferro
Nudavit, caecumque domus scelus omne retexit.
Tum celerare fugam patriaque excedere suadet,
Auxiliumque viae veteris **tellure** recludit
Thesauros, ignotum argenti pondus et auri.
His commota fugam Dido sociosque parabat.
Conveniunt, quibus aut odium crudele tyranni
Aut metus acer erat; navis, quae forte **paratae**,
Corripiunt, onerantque auro; portantur avari
Pygmalionis opes pelago; dux femina facti
Devenere locos, ubi nunc ingentia cernis
Moenia surgentemque novae Karthaginis arcem,
Mercatique solum, **facti** de nomine Byrsam,
Taurino quantum possent circumdare tergo.

2. Parse fully the words printed in black in the passages translated.

3. Decline throughout, giving the meaning and gender of nouns, and the meaning of adjectives and

pronouns:—Nouns: Coniux, res, puer: adjectives: acer, unus: pronouns: qui, idem.

4. Give, in columns, the meaning, gender, genitive singular and plural, ablative singular and plural of—Eques, cultus, collis, corpus, vallum.

5. (a) Compare, giving the meaning in the positive degree—Multus, idoneus, pulcher, bene, graviter, diu.

(b) Give Latin for—two, two each, twofold, twice.

6. Explain the cases of the nouns in the following sentences, and translate into English:—

Priamus multos annos regnavit: Mater mea me literas docuit: Caesar maior erat Crasso: Auxilio Caesari mittitur: Regno vi potitur.

Give in Latin an example of—ablative absolute, oblique statement, final clause.

7. Write, in columns, the principal parts and meanings of the verbs—Iubeo, doceo, veto, sedeo, gero, duco, vivo, nascor, ago, venio.

8. White out—
Indicative future of disco.
Indicative future perfect of capio.
Subjunctive imperfect of possum.
Subjunctive perfect of regor
Imperative of do.

9. Turn into Latin—
Next day they shift camp from that spot.
Ambassadors came to ask for peace.
The general withdrew his forces to the middle of the plain.
He ordered the hostages to return whence they came.

ARITHMETIC.—Time allowed: Two hours and a half.

1. Which is the greater, and by how much—

$$\frac{\cdot 2 \times \cdot 02}{1\frac{1}{2} \times (\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4})} \text{ of 7 gals., or } \frac{1}{4 + \cfrac{1}{4 + \cfrac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{2}}}} \text{ qt.?}$$

2. A man owns 2/15 of a ship: he sells .1351 of his share. What fraction of the ship does he then retain?

3. Divide £1617 between A, B, and C, so that B's share may be 2-3 of A's, and C's share ¾ of what A and B together receive.

4. A metre being 39.371 inches, and a franc being worth 9.38 pence, find to the nearest penny the value of a yard of silk worth 7½ francs a metre.

5. Two persons buy postage stamps at 12 for a shilling. One retails them at 11 for a shilling; the other at 13d. a dozen. Compare their gains when each has sold £11 worth.

6. Find the simple interest on £253 7 9 from 16th March to 12th August at 3 per cent. per annum.

7. How must two sorts of tea which cost 3/- and 3/6 per lb. respectively be mixed so that 10 per cent. may be gained by selling the mixture at 3/8 per lb.?

8. Find in tons what weight of water falls on 85 1-3 acres during a rainfall of 1¾ inches, a cubic foot of water weighing 1000 ounces.

9. When the income tax is 3d. in the £1, a person finds that his net income is £2370 per annum. What would it have been were the tax 7d. in the £1?

10. Find the present worth of £101/1/3, due two years hence; interest at 5 per cent.

ENGLISH. Time allowed: Two hours.

1. Write an Essay on—

(a) Army Nurses; or
(b) America's Part in the War; or
(c) Public Examinations.

Pay particular attention to spelling, punctuation, and division into paragraphs.

2. Give the general and the detailed analysis of the following passage:—"If this should prove truth," said the Duke, setting his teeth and pressing his heel against the ground, "what consideration shall withhold us, the means being in our power, from taking such measures as shall effectually, and at the very source, close up the main spring from which these evils have yearly flowed on us?"

3. (a) Describe the meeting of the bishop and De la Marck in the hall.

(b) How did Quentin Durward confound the sally from Liege?

(c) (i.) Give four examples of seemingly slight incidents followed by important consequences; or

(ii.) Contrast the characters of Isabelle and Gertrude.

4. Explain these terms (and give examples):—Case, Relative Pronoun, Mood, Suffix, Gerund.

5. Give the meaning of each of these extracts, and name the author:—

(a) He saw; but blasted with excess of light,
Closed his eyes in endless night.
(b) And beauty born of murmuring sound
Shall pass into her face.
(c) Such strains as would have won the ear
Of Pluto, to have quite set free
His half-regained Eurydice.
(d) There came a tyrant, and with holy glee
Thou fought'st against him.
(e) I feel like one
Who treads alone
Some banquet-hall deserted.

6. Write out from memory three only of the following passages:—

(a) It is a beauteous . . . . we know it not.
(b) Life! I know not . . . . morning.
(c) But redder yet . . . . sepulchre.
(d) Once did she hold . . . . pass'd away.

GEOMETRY.—Time allowed: Two hours.

BOOK I.

1. On the same base, and on the same side of it, there cannot be two triangles having their sides which are terminated at one extremity of the base equal to one another, and likewise those which are terminated at the other extremity equal to one another. Let the vertex of each triangle be without the other triangle.

2. Draw a straight line perpendicular to a given straight line of unlimited length, from a given point without it.

3. The adjacent angles which one straight line makes with another straight line, on one side of it, are either two right angles, or are together equal to two right angles.

4. Any two sides of a triangle are together greater than the third.

5. Triangles on the same base, and between the same parallels, are equal in area.

6. Describe a square on a given straight line.

7. In the triangle KLP, a straight line KS bisects the vertical angle LKP, and also bisects the base LP at S. Prove that the triangle KLP is isosceles.

8. LHN is an equilateral triangle, and LR is the perpendicular drawn from L to HN. Show that the square on LR is three times the square on HR.

BOOK II.

9. If a straight line is divided into any two parts, the square on the whole line is equal to the sum of the squares on the two parts together with twice the rectangle contained by the two parts.

10. If a straight line is bisected and produced to any point, the rectangle contained by the whole line thus produced and the part of it produced, together with the square on half the line bisected, is equal to the square on the straight line made up of the half and the part produced.

11. If a straight line is bisected and produced to any point, the sum of the squares on the whole line thus produced and on the part produced is twice the sum of the squares on half the line bisected and on the line made up of the half and the part produced.

12. The square on a straight line is four times the square on half that line.

PRACTICAL PHARMACY — Section 1 (a) — (Written Work).—Examiner: Mr. A. E. Sayer. Time allowed: Three hours.

1. State briefly the sources, characters, tests and doses (where any) of—
Salicinum.
Ichthyol.
Thyroideum Siccum.
Araroba.
Creasotum. [10 marks.]

2. Give an account of the manufacture, dose, incompatibles and antidotes of Chloral Hydrate. [15 marks.]

3. Define incompatibility and give examples, also show how advantage is taken of incompatibility as an antidote to poisons, with examples. [10 marks.]

4. Describe in detail the processes of—
Maceration.
Percolation.
Re-percolation.
Name a few tinctures made by maceration and percolation. [10 marks.]

5. (a) What will 10 fluid ounces of Glycerine weigh in dekagrammes?
(b) What volume of Acid Phosphoric conc. s.g. 1.5 may be made from 10 litres of Acid Phosphoric syrupy, s.g. 1.75?
(c) How many mils of Liq. Strychnia B.P. will be required to make an 8-oz. mixture so that each teaspoonful will contain gr. 1-40 of Strychnia Hydrochlor? [20 marks.]

6. What is the meaning of the following terms:—Analysis, synthesis, standardisation, efflorescence, deliquescence, calcination, sublimation? [10 marks.]

7. What are the antidotes to the following poisons?
Morphine.
Digitalis.
Strychnine.
Arsenic.
Belladonna.
Hydrarg. Perchlor.
Acid Hydrocyanic.
Carbolic Acid.
Cannabis Indica.
Mineral Acids. [10 marks.]

8. What are the most suitable pill excipients for—
Creasote.
Potass. Permang.
Camphor.
Phosphorus.
Acid Carbolic. [10 marks.]

9. What would you supply for the following—
Plummer's Pill.
Mandl's Pigment.
Griffiths' Mixture.
Basilicon Ointment.
Liver of Sulphur.
Salts of Tartar.
Goulard's Water.
Sacred Bark.
Gum Cutch.
Scott's Dressing.
Carbazotic Acid.
Lactose.
Rochelle Salts.
Morton's Fluid. [5 marks.]

SECTION 1 (b)—PRACTICAL DISPENSING AND PRESCRIPTION READING.—Examiners: Messrs. Bucklurst, Fleay, and Gulliver. Time allowed: Three hours.

No. 1. Practical Dispensing:—

N.B.—It is expected that the work will be completed within the specified time. If the time allowed is exceeded, marks will be deducted.

1. R Lin. Terebinth, 150 mils.

2. R
Zinci Oxidi	℥	iv.
Adipis Lanae	℥	fs.
Ol. Olivae	℥	iv.
Aq. Calcis	℥	iv.

Ft. Unguentum.
Saepe utend. ut direct.

3. R
Sodii Bicarb.		Gr. x.
Tr. Guaiaci		♏ 40.
Mucilaginis		q.s.
Aquam.	ad.	℥ iv.

Ft. Mist. Mitte tales xii.
1½ part, mane, meridie et nocte post cibos summenda.

4. R
Pot. Bicarb.	grs. ii.
Ferri Sulph.	grs. ii.
Ext. Nucis Vom.	grs. i.
Ac Arseniosi	grs. ½.

Fiat pilula. Sec. artem, Mitte quindecim. Una pro dosi sum cibis ter die sumend.

SECTION 3 (a)—WRITTEN WORK.—Examiners: Mr. Sidney Plowman, F.R.C.S., and Mr. B. L. Stanton. Time allowed: Three hours.

1. Give in some detail the B.P. process for making spiritus aetheris nitrosi, and indicate as far as is possible the nature of the reactions by equations. How is the percentage of the ethyl nitrite present determined?

2. Enumerate the official tartrates. Select one or them, excluding potassium acid tartrate, and give in detail, with equations, the process or processes for obtaining it, starting from a natural source.

3. Describe with equations an economic process for the manufacture of potassium chlorate. What impurities may be found in it, and how can their presence be detected?

4. State in detail how the value of a sample of calx chlorinata may be determined volumetrically.

5. What are the chemical relations existing between aether, acetic aether, alcohol, and ethyl chloride? Describe with equations a process for making any one of them.

6. In a recent issue of the "Journal of Pharmacy" the agricultural editor of the "Daily Telegraph" is quoted as stating that "5 oz. of pure quick lime, dissolved in six times its weight of water, will be sufficient to neutralise 1 per cent. of lactic acid in 1000 lbs. of cream, thus saving the expense of 1 lb. of bicarbonate of soda." Establish or disprove this statement on theoretical grounds, and comment freely on it from a chemical standpoint—

$$\text{Lactic Acid, } HC_3H_5O_3 \cdot 90 : CaO = 56 : NaHCO_3 = 84.$$

7. Describe the sugars of the B.P., and state how the presence of glucose in urine may be quantitatively determined.

8. Describe and formulate six typical instances of the many incompatibilities of liquor plumbi subacetatis fortis, and show how a knowledge of chemical incompatibility may be made use of in the administration of antidotes in a case of lead poisoning.

SECTION 3 (b)—PRACTICAL WORK. Time allowed: Three hours.

1. The solution marked A contains 120 cc. of a sample of Hydrochloric Acid, in 1000 cc. of the solution. The Specific Gravity of the sample of Hydrochloric Acid is
Determine volumetrically the percentage by weight of Hydrogen Chloride in the sample, by means of the given solution of Sodium Hydroxide.

$$NaOh = 40{\cdot}008 : HC_1 = 36{\cdot}468$$

2. Identify the sample of B.P. salt marked B.

3. Examine the sample of Potassium Bicarbonate marked C, for the presence of the following as impurities—Lead, copper, arsenium, aluminium, iron, calcium, magnesium, nitrates, sulphates and chlorides.

ALGEBRA. Time allowed: Two hours.

1. Find the continued product of
$$a^2 + b^2,\ a + b,\ a^4 + b^4,\ a - b.$$

2. Divide
$$x^8 - xy^7 + y^8 \text{ by } x^2 - xy + y^2.$$

3. Reduce to lowest terms
$$\frac{x^3 + 8x^2 + 10x + 21}{x^3 + 6x^2 - 8x - 7}.$$

4. Simplify

(i) $\frac{1}{x^2-5x+6}+\frac{1}{x^2-4x+3}-\frac{1}{x^2-3x+2}$

(ii) $\frac{bc}{(a-b)(a-c)}-\frac{ac}{(b-a)(b-c)}+\frac{ab}{(c-a)(c-b)}$

5. Find the factors of

(i) $x-5)^2-8(x-5)+12$.
(ii) $13x^4+41x^3+6x^2$.
(iii) $x^2-a^2+4y^2-b^2+4xy+2ab$.
(iv) $(2x+3y+a)^2-(x-y+a)^2$.

6. Solve the equation

$$(x-3)^2+101=(x-4)^3+3(x+1)^2.$$

7. Find the square root of

$$\frac{a^4}{9}-\frac{a^3}{3}+\frac{11a^2}{12}-a+1.$$

8. Solve the equations

$$\frac{9}{x}+\frac{4}{y}=5;\ \frac{15}{x}-\frac{8}{y}=1.$$

9. Solve the quadratic equation

$$\frac{4a+3}{(3a-5)a}-\frac{4a-3}{(3a+5)a}=\frac{87}{7(a^2+3)}.$$

10. (i.) A draper bought a piece of cloth at 2/- per yard. He sold one-third of it at 2/6 per yard, one-fourth of it at 2/3, and the remainder at 2/1, gaining 12/8 on the total sales. How many yards did the piece contain?

(ii.) If a lawn had been 5 feet longer and 3 feet narrower, its area would have been unaltered; and if it had been 5 feet wider, it would have been a square. Find its length and breadth.

Births, Marriages & Deaths.

DEATH.

LEWIS.—On the 6th March, Arthur Cooper Lewis, pharmacist, late of Warragul (Vic.), aged 61 years.

NOTICES.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

COURSE OF LECTURES ON SANITATION, HYGIENE, INFECTION, ETC.

A SYLLABUS of the above Course, which will commence on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, at 8.30 p.m., has been printed, and will be forwarded to those interested, on application to the Secretary, 360 Swanston-street, Melbourne.

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Shampoo Jelly.

Soft Soap	120 parts
Potassium Carbonate	30 parts
Glycerine	60 parts

Dissolve the soap in the smallest possible quantity of water, and add the potassium carbonate. When nearly cold, incorporate the glycerine and add sufficient oil of lavender or bergamot, or a mixture of both, to perfume. The jelly can be thinned, if desired, by the addition of water.

Syrup of Biniodide of Mercury.

Red Iodide of Mercury	1 gr.
Potassium Iodide	2 dr.
Orange Flower Water	1 fl. dr.

Soothing Nasal Ointment.

Yellow Oxide of Mercury	4 gr.
Menthol	5 gr.
Phenol	5 gr.
Cold Cream (U. S. P.)	2 oz.

Mix thoroughly. Insert a small portion in nostrils and draw it upwards into the nasal passages.

Anti-Asthmatic Mixture (Fothergill's).

Ammonium Bromide	6 dr.
Ammonium Iodide	4 dr.
Ammonium Chloride	2 dr.
Tincture of Lobelia	6 fl. oz.
Syrup of Tolu	6 fl. oz.

—"American Druggist."

Suggested formulae for insertion in the American Pharmaceutical Recipe Book:—

Coal-Tar Hair Tonic.

Resorcinol	8 gm.
Coal-Tar Solution, N. F.	8 mils
Diluted Alcohol	240 mils

Mix well and filter.

Varnish Remover.

Benzol	2 vol.
Acetone	1 vol.

Orthoform Ointment.

Orthoform	10 gm.
Petrolatum	90 gm.

Note.—Acts as a local anaesthetic, relieving pain in hemorrhoids, etc.

Orthoform Suppositories.

Orthoform	4 gm.
Cacao Butter	20 gm.

Divide into 10 suppositories. Note.—Acts as a local anaesthetic.

Bismuth Cream.

Bismuth Subnitrate	4 gm.
Zinc Oxide	8 gm.
Olive Oil	120 mils
Lime Water, a sufficient quantity	
To make	240 mils

Note.—Very soothing in sunburn and erythema.

Lotio Calcis.

Zinc Oxide	15 gm.
Starch	15 gm.
Lime Water	120 mils
Rose Water, a sufficient quantity	
To make	240 mils

Note.—This lotion gives good results in poison ivy treatment.

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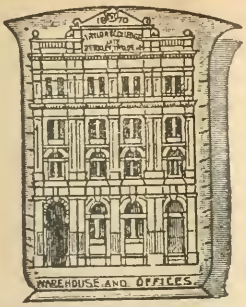

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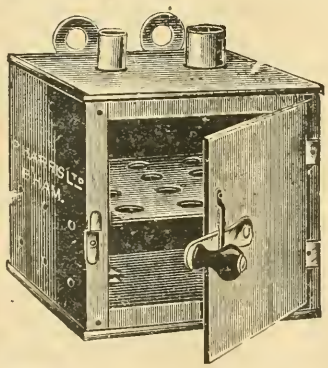

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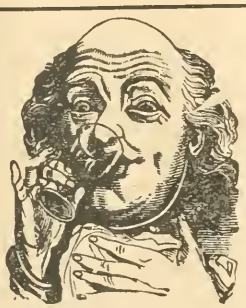

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,, 4 ,, ½ ,, ,, ,, ...					4/-	
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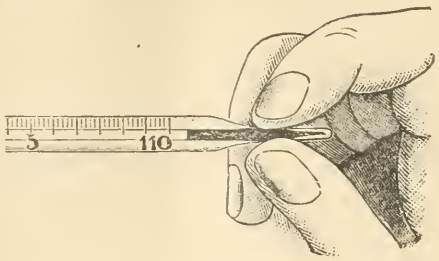

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MEDICAL ACT 1915, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 95, Sub-section of the "Medical Act 1915," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 4th and 5th JUNE, 1918.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. English Literature as prescribed by the Melbourne University.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic, expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cylic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—The substance of Euclid Books I. and II. Any recognised Text Book may be used.

Examination Fee, £1 1s.

TEXT BOOKS IN ENGLISH.

For the September and December, 1917, and the March and June, 1918, Examinations, the English Text Books will be Scott's "Quentin Durward" and selections from Palgrave's "Golden Treasury of English Lyrics." The following numbers from the Golden Treasury are prescribed, viz., Nos. 112, 113, 129*, 140, 165*, 174*, 179, 208*, 210*, 211*, 215*, 218*, 225*, 240*, 261*, 267 and 276. Selections marked with an asterisk require to be memorised.

For the September, 1918, to June, 1919 Examinations:—

1. A knowledge of one of Shakespeare's plays and one of Scott's novels.
2. The interpretation of the meaning, thought and style of passages of prose and verse, with special reference to the ode and the sonnet. The four books of the Golden Treasury contain many of the great odes, and the second and fourth books the sonnets best suited for candidates proceeding to the Intermediate Examination. It also demands some knowledge of Australian verse.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* for March, June, September, and December in each year. 1s. a copy.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th June, 1918.

Examination Fee, Two Guineas.

Entries close Friday June 25th, 1918.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy from the 10th to the 13th JUNE, 1918.

Candidates must give 14 days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Sections 96 and 98 of "The Medical Act, 1915," Part III., must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

THE NEXT PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION will be held 3rd THURSDAY and FRIDAY in JUNE, 1918.

Authors for 1918 are—Scott's "Lady of the Lake," Canto 4, and Cæsar, de Bello Gallico, Book 5.

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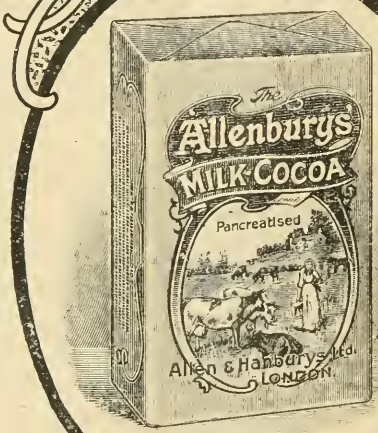

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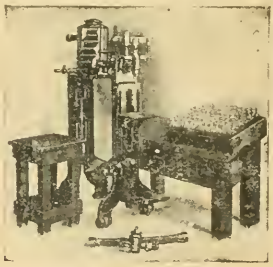

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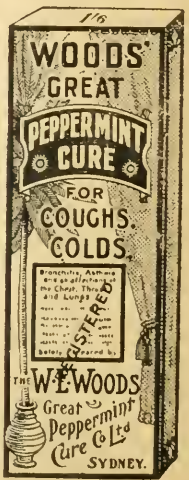

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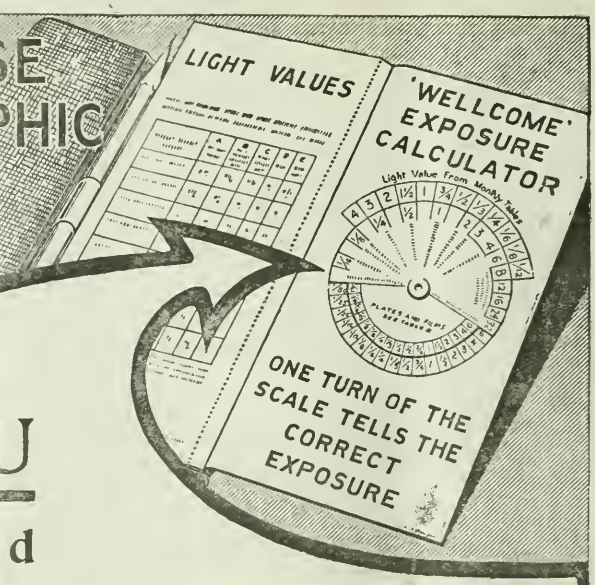
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